MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER.

AGRICULTURE · HORTICULTURE · RURAL LIFE · EXCELSIOR · LITERATURE · SCIENCE · ARTS · NEWS

TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.] "PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT." [SINGLE NO. FOUR CENTS.

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
AN ORIGINAL WEEKLY
AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE,
With an Able Corps of Assistants and Contributors.

CHAS. D. BRAGDON, Western Corresponding Editor.

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER is designed to be unsurpassed in Value, Purity, Usefulness and Variety of Contents, and unique and beautiful in Appearance. Its Conductor devotes his personal attention to the supervision of its various departments, and earnestly labors to render the RURAL an eminently Reliable Guide on all the important Practical, Scientific and other Subjects intimately connected with the business of those whose interests it zealously advocates. As a FAMILY JOURNAL it is eminently Instructive and Entertaining—being so conducted that it can be safely taken to the Hearts and Homes of people of intelligence, taste and discrimination. It embraces more Agricultural, Horticultural, Scientific, Educational, Literary and News Matter, interspersed with appropriate and beautiful Engravings, than any other journal,—rendering it the most complete AGRICULTURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER in America.

☞ For Terms and other particulars, see last page

AGRICULTURAL.

NOTES AND INQUIRIES.

Muck, Ashes, and Lime on Grass Lands.

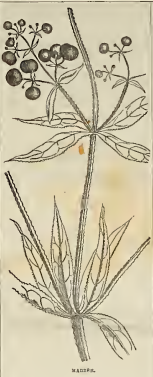
IN answer to a correspondent of Herkimer Co., whose communication, for some reason unknown, has only just reached our table, we would say that if the muck was drawn out as is usually done during the summer, we would compost it at once with the lime and ashes and apply to grass land in the fall. Lime works a great change in muck, correcting the acidity and hastening decomposition. In fact, muck is about the only material that lime can be composted with to advantage. To put lime with stable manure as is sometimes done, is a bad practice, often resulting in the loss of one-half the value of the manure. Unleached ashes should never be composted with manure. If the muck is got out this winter, it may be mixed with the lime as fast as procured, and applied to the land in the spring, or it is about as well and less trouble to spread it as fast as taken out and apply the dressing of lime and ashes early in the spring. About the best crop of hay we ever saw was obtained by a dressing of composted lime, ashes and muck in the autumn, and a light coat of well rotted manure in the spring, brushed in. This, if anything, will renew an old pasture, though if very mossy, it is best to give it a good harrowing before brushing. It is somewhat difficult to destroy sorrel without breaking up and thorough culture. Enriching the soil, liming, and deep cultivation will soon subdue it. Perhaps some of our readers can give experience with sorrel in meadows, that will be of interest to our Herkimer County correspondent as well as others.

Borrage.—Madder—Cultivation, Harvesting, &c.

MANY members of the Borrageworts are troublesome weeds, and none that we are aware of are of any particular value to the farmer. Our correspondent should pursue his investigations in a more promising field. The Comfrey, *Symphytum officinale* was formerly used in England to some extent as a green crop, but its culture has been abandoned. Prof. LINDLEY says, "It pushes very early in the spring, then producing a great quantity of tender, succulent shoots, perfectly free from every noxious quality, and freely eaten by cattle, after they are accustomed to it. Its herbage, even later in the spring, is abundant, and evidently a grateful cattle food. It has, therefore, been recommended occasionally as a good green crop. It has, however, fallen into disuse." Our common Borrage, *B. officinalis*, is a pretty garden plant, rough and hairy, with light blue flowers. It is supposed to possess medicinal properties, and the young leaves are sometimes used as a salad and pot-herb.

MADDER is extensively used in this and all manufacturing countries for dyeing, as it is used in dyeing several colors, but is most valued for its rich madder red. Perhaps this will meet the eye of some one who can give the history of its introduction and culture in this country. We give a description of the mode of planting, culture, &c., by MR. BATEHAM, of Ohio. From this it will be seen that the raising of madder, like that of tobacco and hops, partakes somewhat of manufacturing, and requires to be conducted with skill, energy, and means, to insure success.

SOIL AND PREPARATION.—"The soil should be a deep, rich, sandy loam, free from weeds, roots, stones, &c., and containing a good portion of vegetable earth. Alluvial bottom land is the most suitable; but it must not be wet. If old upland is used, it should receive a heavy coating of vegetable earth, (from decayed wood and leaves.) The land should be plowed very deep in the fall, and early in the spring apply about one hundred loads of well rotted manure per acre, spread evenly, and plowed in deeply, then harrow till quite fine and free from lumps. Next, plow the land into beds four feet wide, leaving alleys between, three feet wide, then harrow the beds with a fine light harrow, or rake them by hand so as to leave them smooth, and even with the alleys; they are then ready for planting.



MADDER.

PREPARING SETS AND PLANTING.—Madder sets, or seed roots, are best selected when the crop is dug in the fall. The horizontal uppermost roots (with eyes) are the kind to be used; these should be separated from the bottom roots, and buried in sand, in a cellar or pit. If not done in the fall, the sets may be dug early in the spring, before they begin to sprout. They should be cut or broken into pieces, containing from two to five eyes each; *i. e.*, three to four inches long. The time for planting is as early in spring as the ground can be got in good order, and severe frosts are over, which, in this climate, is usually about the middle of April. With the beds prepared as directed, stretch a line lengthwise the bed, and with the corner of a hoe make a drill two inches deep along each edge and down the middle, so as to give three rows to each bed, about two feet apart. Into these drills drop the sets, ten inches apart, covering them two inches deep. Eight or ten bushels of sets are requisite for an acre.

AFTER CULTURE.—As soon as the madder plants can be seen, the ground should be carefully hoed, so as to destroy the weeds and not injure the plants; and the hoeing and weeding must be repeated as often as weeds make their appearance. If any of the sets have failed to grow, the vacancies should be filled by taking up parts of the strongest roots and transplanting them; this is best done in June. As soon as the madder plants are ten or twelve inches high, the tops are to be bent down upon the surface of the ground, and all except the tip end, covered with earth shoveled from the middle of the alleys. Bend the shoots outward and inward, in every direction, so as in time to fill all the vacant space on the beds, and about one foot on each side. After the first time covering, repeat the weeding when necessary, and run a single horse plow through the alleys several times to keep the earth clean and mellow. As soon as the plants again become ten or twelve inches high, bend down and cover them as before, repeating the operation as often as necessary, which is commonly three times the first season. The last time may be as late as September, or later if no frosts occur. By covering the tops in this manner, they change to roots, and the design is to fill the ground as full of roots as possible. When the vacant spaces are all full, there will be little chance for weeds to grow; but all that appear must be pulled out.

THE SECOND YEAR.—Keep the beds free from weeds; plow the alleys and cover the tops, as before directed, two or three times during the season. The alleys will now form deep and narrow ditches, and if it becomes difficult to obtain good earth for covering the tops, that operation may be omitted after the second time this season. Care should be taken, when covering the tops, to keep the edges of the beds as high as the middle; otherwise the water from heavy showers will run off, and the crop suffer from drouth.

THE THIRD YEAR.—Very little labor or attention is required. The plants will now cover the whole ground. If any weeds are seen, they must be pulled out; otherwise their roots will cause trouble when harvesting the madder. The crop is sometimes dug the third year; and if the soil and cultivation have been good, and the seasons warm and favorable, the madder will be of good quality; but generally, it is much better in quality, and more in quantity, when left until the fourth year.

DIGGING AND HARVESTING.—This should be done between the 20th of August and the 20th of September. Take a sharp shovel or shovels, and cut off and remove the tops with half an inch of the surface of the earth; then take a plow of the largest size, with a sharp coulter and a double team, and plow a furrow outward, beam-deep, around the edge of the bed; stir the earth with forks, and carefully pick out all the roots, removing the earth from the bottom of the furrow; then plow another furrow beam-deep, as before, and pick over and remove the earth in the same manner; thus proceeding until the whole is completed.

WASHING AND DRYING.—As soon as possible after digging, take the roots to some running stream to be washed. If there is no running stream convenient, it can be done at a pump. Take large, round sieves, two and a half or three feet in diameter, with the wire about as fine as wheat sieves; or if those cannot be had, get from a hardware store sufficient screen-wire of the right fineness, and make frames or boxes about two and a half feet long and the width of the wire, on the bottom of which nail the wire. In these sieves or boxes, put half a bushel of roots at a time and stir them about in the water, pulling the bunches apart so as to wash them clean; then, having a platform at hand, lay them on it to dry. (To make the platform, take two or three common boards, so as to be about four feet in width, and nail cleets across the under side.) On these spread the roots about two inches thick for drying in the sun. Carry the platforms to a convenient place, not far from the house, and place them side by side, in rows east and west, and with their ends north and south, leaving room to walk between the rows. Elevate the south ends of the platforms about eighteen inches, and the north ends about six inches from the ground, putting poles or sticks to support them—this will greatly facilitate drying. After the second or third day drying, the madder must be protected from the dews at night, and from rain, placing the platforms one upon another to a convenient height, and covering the uppermost one with boards. Spread them out again in the morning, or as soon as the danger is over. Five or six days of ordinary fine weather will dry the madder sufficiently, when it may be put away till it is convenient to kiln-dry and grind it.

KILN-DRYING.—The size and mode of constructing the kiln may be varied to suit circumstances. The following is a very cheap plan, and sufficient to dry one ton of roots at a time. Place four strong posts in the ground, twelve feet apart one way, and eighteen the other; the front two fourteen feet high, and the others eighteen; put girts across the bottom, middle and top; and nail boards perpendicularly on the outside as for a common barn. The boards must be well seasoned, and all cracks or holes should be plastered or otherwise stopped up. Make a shed-roof of common boards. In the inside put upright-standards about five feet apart, with cross-pieces, to support the scaffolding. The first cross-pieces to be four feet from the floor; the next two feet higher, and so on to the top. On these cross-pieces, lay small poles about six feet long and two inches thick, four or five inches apart. On these scaffolds the madder is to be spread nine inches thick. A floor is laid at the bottom, to keep all dry and clean. When the kiln is filled, take six or eight small kettles or hand furnaces, and place them four or five feet apart on the floor, (first securing it from fire with bricks or stones,) and make fires in them with charcoal, being careful not to make any of the fires so large as to scorch the madder over them. A person must be in constant attendance to watch and replenish the fires. The heat will ascend through the whole, and in ten or twelve hours it will all be sufficiently dried, which is known by its becoming brittle like pipe-stems.

BREAKING AND GRINDING.—Immediately after being dried, the madder must be taken to the barn and threshed with flails, or broken by machinery, (a mill might easily be constructed for this purpose;) so that it will feed in a common grist mill. If it is not broken and ground immediately, it will gather dampness so as to prevent its grinding freely. Any common grist-mill can grind madder properly. When ground finely it is fit for use, and may be packed in barrels like flour for market."

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WESTERN EDITORIAL NOTES.

JOHN DEERE—A VISIT TO HIS PLOW FACTORY.

ON my way, returning from the Iowa Fair, Moline was visited. There are few men better known to the farmers of the North-West than JOHN DEERE. He is either present, or represented by his agents and plows, at nearly every State and County Fair that takes place. His plows are competitors at nearly every plowing match in the country. They are popular among prairie farmers; and they deserve to be, or they would quickly be discarded; for it is a fact that there is no equal number of farmers in the world who are so impatient of and so quickly discard and throw by a poor tool, as the farmers of the prairies. There are few who can so quickly determine the real merit and value of an implement, and I do not detract from the intelligence or practical knowledge of farmers in any other locality by the assertion.

But I commenced saying that I stopped at Moline and spent a couple of hours looking through the manufactory whence are scattered over our prairies so many glistening, polished steel blades, with which the virgin turf is turned, and the fallow soil stirred.

Mr. DEERE is a tall, straight Vermonter—head and shoulders above most men in stature—who early learned to work iron skillfully, and came to this State twenty-five years ago and opened a single fire at *Grand de Tour.* He got on a stock of iron, a rare thing west of Chicago, and because he had such a stock he soon got all the business he could do. He manufactured, the first year, three plows—"strap plows"—the mold-board being made of four straps. But they did not meet the wants of his customers. The second year he opened another fire, and built eight or nine plows, improving them a little. With the river custom and other incidental work, he was unable to meet the demand for his plows, and he failed also to satisfy the farmers; for while they could get no plow better suited to their wants, these plows did not scour. The sticky, dirty prairie soil would cling to and clog them. The third year the same style of plow was built, and 16 or 18 were made. But the complainants grew clamorous for a plow that would scour. Many farmers averred that they would be compelled to give up farming in the West, as they could not cultivate the soil with such tools.

After having got over the hurry of the season, the third year, Mr. DEERE determined to make a scouring plow, if one could be made. Quietly, and without allowing his best friends to know what he was doing, that he might not be disturbed by intrusions, or distracted by suggestions, he wrought a plow out of steel saved from saw plates that he had cut up. When completed, he took the plow to the farm of WM. CHAMBERLAIN, of Lee county, to test it. The trial took place on a forty acre field, on which the weeds were eight or nine feet high. The farmer was delighted with the result; he wanted to purchase the plow; he must have it; he did not want it removed from his farm, not for a day, lest some one else should get possession of it. But Mr. DEERE saw that it could be improved, and insisted upon taking it back to the shop and making the suggested improvements, which he did. This was the first scouring plow known in Northern Illinois. [Another was built, it is asserted, about the same time in Southern Illinois.]

This plow gave great satisfaction, and was visited by hundreds of farmers from all parts of the country, and orders multiplied on his hands, until now, from 10,000 to 15,000 plows are built annually. But it must be remembered that with the increased business there has been a corresponding improvement in the character and adaptation of the plows manufactured. It has been the policy and effort of Mr. DEERE to secure and combine in his various plows all the improvements that he could find or hear of; and the sums expended in this manner, and in experiments, form no inconsiderable proportion of the capital invested in them.

We were greatly interested in the different processes of manufacture. The patterns of the different plows are in the hands of English and American steel manufacturers. The steel is cut by them to the shape of the pattern, and shipped in this form to Moline. The freight on the steel scrap is thus saved, and all loss in cutting avoided. These sheets of steel are first heated in a furnace, then taken therefrom and put in molds, and pressed into shape while hot. The edges are then planed, the places for holes for bolts marked, and the holes drilled. Then follows the hardening process, which is new, and adds greatly to the durability of the plow. It increases the cost of the plow to Mr. DEERE, but not to the farmer. Then follows the fitting of the parts—the building this wrought steel superstructure about the skeleton standard, or foundation. This done, before it goes to the woodshop for bearers and handles, it is applied to the different polishing wheels. The fire flies from the mold-board, in a stream, as it is held by the operator to the rapidly revolving wheel, and the smutty faces of the sturdy operatives are illumined by other than sunlight.

Having seen the bolts and heads made, the standards forged, the clevices wrought, we turn to the room where the bearers are tenoned, mortised and dressed, the handles shaped, and other wood-work done. Machinery is employed to do this work. The farmer who breaks a bearer may order one from the shop, if he chooses, sure that it will fit, for they are all made after the same pattern. Few of the plows are painted, the best coach varnish being used. This is not so durable as good paint, and costs more; but it does not cover up defects in timber, and the purchaser need not be deceived.

We visited the store-rooms, which were rapidly being cleared by the fall trade. We found here all sorts of plows—the great breaker, the small two-horse breaker, the Michigan double plow, Mapes' subsoil plow, and the different clean clipper plows that have won for DEERE so much of his fame. Of these the "X, No. 1," and the "Clipper No. 1," are favorites. Either of them is good enough for stubble or fallow land; in either case they scour, and in any soil, which cannot be said of other excellent plows—other exceedingly popular plows in all other respects. The writer has had opportunity to see these plows at work beside several other kinds during this autumn and past years, and unhesitatingly *believes in them!*

Mr. DEERE is going to build 300 or 400 "cast, cast steel" plows the present season, and he proposes to build them all center draft. I find that center draft plows are fully appreciated wherever I find them. Perhaps the best one of the kind that I have seen anywhere, is one I found on the farm of Messrs. TOWN brothers, in Kane Co. It is R. VINCENT'S patent, and was made at Mishawakee, Ind. One of the gentlemen, TOWN, said it was the best old ground plow he ever held; and it is not costly—only $14. It seems eminently adapted to stubble plowing. But the reader must pardon this digression.

There are some serious difficulties to be overcome by the manufacturer in the manufacture of "cast cast steel plows"; but Mr. Deere believes they can be surmounted, and he is the man to grapple with them. There was a cast cast steel plow at Iowa City, which was used by one of the plowmen at the plowing match; it did excellent work, and was very much liked by the plowman. It scoured perfectly. It was made somewhere in New England. It is certainly of no small importance to the Western farmer, that this kind of a plow be manufactured here, for it is believed that ultimately they may be made cheaper than the wrought plows. Again, they may be made more durable, for it will be easier to increase the thickness of the plate at exposed wearing points, and give it uniformly the *best form* without affecting said durability. The farmer will be better able to duplicate parts of his plow, with no danger that they will not match the worn parts. There are other reasons, which it is not important should be discussed here.

The Father of Waters turns the wheels of this establishment and of many other large manufactories hereabouts. The available water-power at this place, Moline, is immense, and is reliable. The only difficulty that has ever been experienced, is that of getting a dam capable of sustaining the immense pressure of the volume of waters above. There is no doubt but it can and will be done; but it has not yet been accomplished. The facilities afforded for shipment in all directions, and for receiving from all quarters the material for manufacture, together with an ample and reliable water-power, point to this place as a most important Western manufacturing center. Here are already located S. W. WHEELOCK'S large paper mills, BOYINGTON'S Moline flouring mills, through which the writer was courteously conducted. There are other important manufacturing establishments, which I had no time to visit.

* * *

A DAIRYMAN ASSISTED.

IN the issue of the RURAL dated Nov. 23d., I find an inquiry by E. V., who appears to be deeply "in trouble" in "dairy matters." He says: "Our churnings sometimes take four or five hours to get the butter, and then it is soft and pale. Our fixtures, cows, and pastures are the same as two years ago, when we could churn in thirty or forty minutes and get good hard butter. But now we churn, churn, churn, and get little and poor. Some of our neighbors have the same trouble." This is certainly a serious trouble; for we get tired of churning when it takes only from three to fifteen minutes to fetch the butter.

I am confident—though not entirely certain—that if others would pursue the same course in their dairy operations which we have adopted, they would have no more trouble in getting their butter. The main points in our practice, which differs from the common mode of butter-making, are these: First—*The cows are salted every day.* Second—The first time cream is skimmed into the cream-pot, about *half a gill of salt is thrown into it* and well stirred with a paddle. [Our cream-pots hold about four gallons. If larger ones are used, put in salt in proportion.] Third—*Every time* more cream is put in—and two or three times a day besides—*the whole is thoroughly stirred* with the paddle, which is made similar to a pudding stick. Careful attention to these points, together with a little care that the milk-room is sufficiently warm in winter, and cool in summer, and churning as often as twice a week, or at least three times in two weeks, enables us to fetch the butter by hand, in an old-fashioned dash-churn, very often in less than five minutes—generally in less than ten minutes—and almost invariably in less than fifteen minutes. (I churned this morning in six minutes by the clock.)

I do not understand the philosophy of the influence which the salt given to the cows has on the churning; but I do know, that if, through carelessness or neglect, the cows are not salted for a few days, it takes longer to churn. The salt which is put into the first cream preserves it, so that it does not become as sour as it otherwise would, and stirring prevents each skimming from remaining in a layer by itself, whereby it would become very sour at the bottom before enough accumulated for a churning.

SINE DIE.

* * *

PROTECT THE ANIMALS.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—The severe castigation "H. T. B." gave the unmerciful owners of dumb brutes, (see RURAL of Nov. 30,) was just the right thing at the right time. Let any man of any intelligence take a trip on the Erie Canal from Buffalo to Albany, and see the poor, wretched, starved, bleeding, maimed, blind, and dying horses the whole length of that "ditch," and then let him say which has the most brute in him, the horse or the owner. I recollect some twenty years or more ago taking a trip from your city to Schenectady, aboard a line-boat, and upon that occasion I had leisure to exam-

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to the condition of canal horses generally and particularly. I found some of the towing teams in the regular lines in a good condition — *sleek* and *fat*. But the majority of the horses towing the *wild* boats were the most wretched looking animals I ever saw in my life. I saw a number of animals whose breasts and shoulders were galled from the top of their shoulders to the bottom of the breast, and putrid matter actually running down their fore legs and dropping on the ground. If strict justice had been meted out to the owners of those horses, they should have been hitched to the same scow and made to tow it to Buffalo, with Jeff. Davis for a driver.

But canal men are not the only men who abuse brute animals. Even professedly Christian, church-going people, in some localities, I am sorry to say, after working their horses six days, do not let them rest on the *seventh*, but drive them from two to six miles on a bitter cold December day, and then tie them to a tree or post for four hours to shiver, (and with their tails not always to the wind,) until the benediction is pronounced. "The merciful man is merciful to his beast."

Now, friend Moore, the world is progressing, (except down in Secessia.) We have a law abolishing imprisonment for debt, a homestead law, and a law to protect the rights of married women, all of which are founded on the laws of humanity. Why can't you and H. T. Brooks go down to Albany this winter and *lobby* through "a bill for the protection of four-footed animals." If you will get such a bill passed, and Abe Lincoln will prevail with Congress to pass a law abolishing human chattlehood in the South, I shall think the two most important difficulties in the way of the Millenium have been removed. Charles H. Randall.

Oakland, N. Y., Dec. 2, 1861.

"TERRA-CULTURE:"
WHAT THE RURAL SAID ABOUT IT YEARS AGO.

[From the Rural New-Yorker, August 26, 1852.]

Disclosures in "Terra-Culture."

With others, to the number of some seventy, we attended the "disclosures" of Russell Comstock upon the subject known as Terra-Culture. Mr. C. claims to have discovered a law in vegetable physiology of the utmost importance to the Agriculturist, the Horticulturist, and "the rest of mankind."

We listened attentively, and with a real desire to learn the whole extent of the great discoveries about which so much has been said, yet must confess that we came away with a feeling of great disappointment. It is true the lecturer unfolded some things connected with the cultivation of trees, plants and grain, which might be called new, and which on trial may prove of much value. Far be it from us to underrate one particle the information received. It is not what we had been led to expect. In comparison to the published pretensions of the lecturer, it sinks into insignificance; it is very much what a Yankee would call "the little end of nothing whittled to a point."

This may not be the fault of the subject, more than the manner in which it is treated. Of all the itinerants from whom we have heard lectures upon any subject, we think no one among them so wanting in capacity to communicate ideas intelligibly as Mr. Comstock. The world has been favored with many philosophers and naturalists, the result of whose labors has been of incalculable benefit to the great mass of mankind. The long list of illustrious names emblazoned on the roll of undying fame, will go down to the latest posterity side by side with the knowledge of the discoveries and the principles for which each, as a public benefactor, and as lovers of truth and research, labored.

These men, at a great expenditure of time and means, sought out the unknown in nature and philosophy and freely gave to the world the sublime results of their efforts. Russell Comstock, in the nineteenth century, claims to have accidentally discovered a law in vegetable physiology which may be of some use to culturists, and to which he has added minor results of his labors. For these he desires a patent or pension from the National or State Legislatures, failing in which, he retails them out to the wondering and credulous world, at one dollar per head, with the agreement of a further fee of five dollars in case of their ultimate use. These discoveries may prove of the greatest value, and be very cheap at the price asked, but the great parade made by the discoverer, and the rank and importance claimed for them, ill comport with what we were enabled to learn at the lecture given in this city. †

[From the Rural New-Yorker, October 14, 1852.]

"Terra-Culture"—Its Application.

Eds. Rural:—Will you permit me to offer a few remarks upon "Terra-Culture," being one of those so fortunate as to have obtained the secret.

On the 19th of June I attended Mr. Comstock's lecture at this place,—and on the following day, to test thoroughly the system, I planted a piece of ground in my garden with potatoes, two rows as directed by the lecturer, and two in the usual manner; then two more terra-culture, and two more the common way,—cultivating the first according to directions, and the others as I had done previously.

On the first of October they were dug,—and now for the result. Those terra-cultured outdone the others in weight and numbers, the yield in the latter respect being so large as to induce the counting of a hill, or what would be a hill in the other mode of planting, and to my surprise it contained *one hundred and thirty-two*, some of them as large as goose eggs. But, Messrs. Editors, if you were here you would exclaim with the Queen of Sheba, "the half was not told," for on examination there would be found of the size of goose eggs two, of hen's eggs, six, of bantam eggs, seven, between a bantam and those of a robin, *fifty-two*, between those of a robin's egg and a marrowfat pea, *sixty-five*. Weight of the hill, four pounds; weight of those fit for table use, two pounds and one ounce. To give full credit to the experiment, I saved all that were large as marrowfat peas of both kinds and weighed the produce of the rows with the following result:—Weight of those terra-cultured, 155 pounds, of which those fit for table use weighed 106 pounds. Those cultivated in the common method weighed 153 pounds, of which 126 pounds were fit for table use.

But the labor and the lecture are not lost. He has shown me conclusively that I was on the "other side of the river." As one Irishman said to another, "An faith, Pat, aint we on the other side of the river?" "Oh no," says Pat, "that can't be." "But we are, though," says the first one, pointing across the stream, "for faith, Pat, aint that one side of the river?" "Yes," says Pat. "Well, and aint this the other side sure." Pat gave it up. And now that I am on "the other side of the river," I will endeavor in future to get the desired information on agriculture, by reading the Rural and kindred publications.

Marcellus, N. Y., Oct. 1, 1852. Abner Willson.

Remarks.—We cheerfully give place to the communication of Mr. Willson, believing it is time the character and value of these much vaunted disclosures were better understood by the public. We gladly give publicity and sanction to anything valuable in the way of agricultural improvement, and hold ourselves as ready to discountenance any humbug or quackery which interested parties or persons may be promulgating, for their pecuniary benefit, to the disadvantage of the community. In this class we verily believe "Terra-Culture" to rank. Such was our opinion before hearing the "disclosures," and after patiently listening to them for some hours, we were more than ever impressed that the whole thing was an arrant humbug. If terra-culture is what its promulgator pretends, there has time enough elapsed since it was first disclosed, to have at this moment thousands of farmers in different parts of the country, whose superior knowledge would enable them to grow larger and better crops than their neighbors, and whose fruit trees would always wear the freshness and vigor of youth,—whose potatoes would never rot, and who would have no cause to complain of insect killed wheat, and other contingencies to which crops are subject.

But we believe no such state of things exists, and that those who have heard the disclosures and have attempted to put them in practice, have made the important discovery that they are all at once, like our esteemed correspondent, on "the other side of the river." *If terra-culture was but a tithe of the value which Mr. Comstock pretends, there would be no need of all the parade and quack-medicine style of advertising with which its introduction is everywhere heralded.* The practical results would be seen in the fields of those who used the system, and their neighbors would be desirous of knowing how such astonishing crops could be grown. We think nineteen of every twenty who have heard Mr. Comstock's attempts at enlightening an audience have readily come to similar conclusions. †

[From the Rural New-Yorker, February 26, 1853.]

The Wonderful Mystery Revealed.

In presenting the following article to the public — thereby disclosing the substance of the so-called great and useful discovery in vegetation — a word of explanation may be necessary in regard to the propriety of appropriating, or imparting to the community, that which is claimed as valuable individual property. As to our *right* and *duty* in the premises, we have no misgivings, — 1. For the reason that the responsible Editor of the Rural has never made any pledge whatsoever concerning the secret, and hence has no compunctions of conscience in regard to "disclosing the disclosures." 2. We firmly believe that the pretended discovery is of little or no value — indeed, that much of it as may be of use is not *new*, as we can (and may hereafter) demonstrate by quoting from the works of popular authors — and hence, that it is our bounden duty to expose the deception, in order that those whose interests we advocate may no longer be unwittingly defrauded of their well-earned dollars, and valuable time.

The subjoined article was written by a gentleman connected with this journal, who has listened most patiently and attentively to the "disclosures" — and who, in common with numerous other hearers thereof, has arrived at the conclusion that the pretended discovery by the theoretical Professor, ought to be made public. If this is not sufficient in extenuation, we may state that the Professor has violated his portion of the contract, and hence our associate is under no obligation. For pronouncing the pretensions of the Professor to the possession of a secret of great value, an unmitigated humbug, the vials of his wrath have been poured upon us, most profusely. These incoherent ravings are harmless, however, and certainly will not deter us from discharging our duty to the agricultural community. Hence, for the benefit of the public, and in vindication of our conclusions, we shall now and hereafter submit certain facts and statements for candid consideration.—Ed.

The Agricultural community has been kept in a state of excitement for some time past, by the announcement that Russell Comstock, of Mabbettsville, Dutchess county, had discovered a new and valuable fact in vegetable physiology, which was of the utmost consequence to mankind. Presenting himself before Congress, the secret was disclosed to a Committee, from whom he avers he received the offer of $500,000 for his discovery. The same occurred before the Legislature of Massachusetts, and, we think, New York. All of the Committees, he avers, pronounced the discovery of incalculable importance, but with none was he able to make a satisfactory bargain.

He next urged the matter upon the attention of the New York State Agricultural Society, who appointed a Committee to hear the disclosures, and report their value to the Society. Overwhelmed by the magnitude (?) of the subject, the Committee were unable to make a report at the time, but subsequently the late A. J. Downing, Esq., who was one of the Committee, responded to the numerous calls of the public, and submitted a lucid, and we doubt not a satisfactory, disclosure. [For Mr. Downing's disclosure, see article on next page, entitled "The Great Discovery in Vegetation."]

If any still doubt the immense importance of the disclosures, will they step with us into the lecture room, and listen to the weighty secret,—hear the great discoverer "disclose his disclosures," as the Professor euphoniously terms his revelations.

Before you stands the veritable Professor himself; around him are arranged, in admirable disorder, sundry roots, twigs, and saplings, with here and there an ear of corn, or the cob on which corn has grown, and a few old and apparently well-read books. With an appearance of wisdom which would grace a Solomon, he announces that, many years since, in looking over the pages of a "School of Botany," he caught what had escaped the attention of the author,—a fact in vegetable physiology which he believes to be of incalculable benefit to all who live by tilling the soil. In Loudon's "*Encyclopedia of Agriculture*," he also found a corroboration of the fact, since which time he has, by much labor, wrought the whole into a system, which is as universal in its application as are the plants which are subject to this newly discovered law.

Picking up a small peach tree, he will go on to illustrate that, at the point where the root merges into the tree, the point between the ground and the air, is what may be called the *seat of life* to the plant, or tree. If this *seat of life* in planting is set too low into the ground, so as to be covered up, the tap-root dies; the tree from being a seedling becomes a sucker, merely an offshoot from the original tree — forming roots above the "seat of life," which changes its nature, and subjects it to all the blighting diseases of which farmers and horticulturists so much complain. This principle he applies to every tree and plant; and, by some process of reasoning unintelligible to common comprehension, insists that the same effects are very sure to follow any departure from the rule, by either putting in trees or plants too deep, or not setting them far enough into the ground.

Should some hearer, less credulous than any other, venture to ask an explanation, or the application of the discovery to any plant not before named, the Professor is sure to give all the facts before related, winding up with an exhibition of some of his favorite trees.

The prevention of the potato rot, raising wheat without winter-killing, and many of his theories concerning growing crops, are but efforts to make the system of cultivation conform to the great mystery of the "*seat of life*." The burden of his discovery is, that Nature terra-cultures,—therefore, follow Nature. Trees for fruit or ornament need no trimming or cultivation, more than to let them grow as Nature designed.

Such is, substantially, the whole theory of "Terra-Culture;" and should the reader consider it a "most lame and impotent" affair, we shall not attempt to controvert his conclusion. H. O. W.

[From the Rural New-Yorker, July 14, 1860.]

The Terra-Cultural Humbug, which has been exploded, played out and buried in so many places, has just come to the surface in Michigan, where its author seems as plucky as an oft-drowned but still surviving cat. We admire the fellow's superlative impudence in attempting to "disclose the disclosures" among the intelligent people of the Peninsular State, after "the dangers he had passed," and what has been made public to all who read; and hence, instead of giving him "a good raking down" as desired, commend the "professor" to all who think they can bore auger holes with gimlets. Every one who believes Gulliver's Travels, and that the millennium has come, should be sure to *bleed for* and heed the "wonderful secrets." These remarks are suggested by a note dated "Jonesville, Mich., July 6th," which says:—"*Prof. Comstock*, of 'terra-cultural' notoriety, is in Jonesville and vicinity, (Hillsdale Co., Mich.,) telling his abominable lies to the farmers, and extorting their hard earnings as a remuneration. Please give the Prof. a good raking down. *He won't let any intelligent person, who is opposed to him, hear his lectures.* One man offered to pay the 'fee' if the 'professor' would admit him, agreeing to give the 'hundred-dollar bond' not to reveal any 'secrets,' and then divulge the whole thing, and let the Prof. commence a suit against him, telling him that he could not get a verdict for a farthing. The Prof. *would not let him in.* The Prof. is *humbugging* some of the best farmers in the county of Hillsdale."

Rev. Dr. Dewey on Terra-Culture.

After the preceding articles were in type, and on the eve of going to press, we received the following brief, but very emphatic and comprehensive note from the Rev. Dr. Dewey, for many years Professor of Natural Sciences in the University of Rochester. As thousands of our readers are aware, Dr. Dewey is a man of profound scientific attainments and ability, and wide and exalted reputation, having long been distinguished for his researches and instructions in Botany, Chemistry, Geology, Mineralogy, &c. His opinion on any subject which he has investigated is, of course, entitled to great weight; and as he has heard the self-styled "Professor" lecture on terra-culture, and given the theory some attention, he knows whereof he affirms.—Ed.

Mr. Editor:—Is it possible that *terra-culture*, in its peculiar and inappropriate sense, is still promulged and is acquiring duped supporters? It was so utterly killed and decapitated years ago, in our State, even by those who had bought the secret and found they had *purchased only the use of words*, that the intelligent farmer in any part of the country ought to have known too much to be deceived. That plants can be set out too deep or not deep enough, was known before the Christian era, and that the vital principle of the plant or tree could not act with its best energy if the roots were covered too deep in the earth or the contrary. All good and profitable agriculture is *terra-culture*, the only original difference of the two terms being, that the former is the culture of a *field* and the other of the *earth*. Let then the hum-bug meaning of the one be utterly discarded, by the rejection of the absurdity that any one principle can be adequate for the most successful agriculture. Long as I have been contending against erroneous or absurd dogmas in science and art, I am bound in duty not to lay aside the weapons of this warfare. Ever ready to receive truth, men should be ever resolved to reject error. As agriculture is practical or experimental, let every humbug dogma be proved by the experiment. Where has the experiment been made which sustains this "falsely so-called" terra-culture? Call for the proof; where? The answer has been repeatedly given, No-where. The attempt has failed. C. D.

Dec. 9, 1861.

Rural Spirit of the Press.

How to Store Potatoes to Prevent Rot.

The *Scottish Farmer* has the following useful and seasonable hints on storing potatoes:—"Before the appearance of the disease in 1845, it was quite common to store potatoes in large masses in houses. The roots would often keep sound in this state through the greater part of the winter. No fermentation was induced, and any little heat generated had the effect of causing the roots to sprout. Since that time, however, things have been entirely changed. In 1845 the larger portion of the crop was taken up to all appearance quite sound; but whenever it was stored in large pits or in houses a destructive fermentation was induced, which speedily reduced the roots to a rotten mass. It has been observed that thunder storms seem to stimulate the latent seeds of the disease, and promote first the destruction of the haulm and then that of the tubers. It has been found that putting together potatoes in large quantities, has often had the effect of spreading the taint through the whole. For this reason it is seldom that they are now stored in houses. The smaller the quantities that can be put together the better, as it will diminish the risk of their spoiling. The narrower, therefore, the pits are made, so much the more chance is there of the roots keeping through the winter, and not sprouting prematurely in spring. It is far from advisable to begin to store before the weather becomes cool, as heat is very apt to spread the destructive taint."

Bruised Oats and Cut Hay for Horses.

The London Omnibus Company have lately made a report on feeding horses, which discloses some interesting information not only to farmers, but to every owner of a horse. As a great number of horses are now used in the army for cavalry, artillery and draught purposes, the facts stated are of great value at the present time. The London Company uses no less than 6,000 horses; 3,000 of this number had for their feed bruised oats and hay. The allowance accorded to the first was, bruised oats, 16 lbs.; cut hay, 7½ lbs.; cut straw, 2½ lbs. The allowance accorded to the second, unbruised oats, 19 lbs.; uncut hay, 13 lbs. The bruised oats, cut hay and straw amounted to 26 lbs.; and the unbruised oats, &c., to 32 lbs. The horse which had bruised oats, with cut hay and straw, and consumed 26 lbs. per day, could do the same work as well, and was kept in as good condition, as the horse which received 32 lbs. per day. Here was a saving of 6 lbs. per day on the feeding of each horse receiving bruised oats, cut hay and cut straw. The advantage of bruised oats and cut hay over unbruised oats and uncut hay, is estimated at 2½d. per day on each horse, amounting to upwards of £60 per day for the company's 6,000 horses. It is by no means an unimportant result with which this experiment has supplied us. To the farmer who expends a large sum in the support of horse power, there are two points this experiment clearly establishes, which in practice must be profitable—first, the saving of food to the amount of 6 lbs. per day, and, second, no loss of horse power arising from that saving.

Talk with Patriotic Farmers.

In the course of a Talk with the Patriotic Farmers, brother Breed, of the N. H. *Journal of Agriculture*, makes these suggestions:

How to do a Good Thing.—But amid all this bustle and confusion of war, amid all this turmoil of the camp and the battle field, is he not liable to forget the interests of the farm? Is not his patriotism manifested as above, likely to overshadow that patriotism that should cause him to examine closely the affairs of home? In fine, are we not, as practical farmers, devoting too much thought upon the war, forgetting that however large our army, however patriotic our soldiers, they must be supplied with good and warm clothing, and with an abundance of good and wholesome food, or they are marshalled on the battle field in vain?

Blockade the Ports of Waste.—What shall be done? Shall we go on wasting as before? Shall we still be unmindful of the needs of the farm? Shall we still neglect the oxen, and the cows, and the sheep, during the cold winter months just coming upon us? Or shall we tighten up the stables for a cold night, and have conveniences for good ventilation when the weather is mild? Would it not be well to make a general effort to bring about a general reform about the barn, the present winter, not only in reference to the care and feed of the animals, but to the saving and making of all the manure possible?

A Word on Barns.—We predict that an entire change will soon be wrought in the construction of barns. There are *parlor* barns enough already to ruin half the stock in the country. What better arrangement can a man have to injure his stock, than a *tight box* set over a *manure heap*? No barn ever built is equal to the rough boarded New England barn, for keeping hay. And no stock ever grew that was any hardier than the old New England stock that was fed in them. But we do not advocate the exposure of stock to all weathers to make it hardy. Let the stables be under control, either to keep it warm or to well ventilate it. Finally, let all the leaks be stopped in the stable floors, and the land will "blossom like the rose."

Rural Notes and Items.

"Terra Culture," Once More.—In accordance with a promise in our last, we this week re-publish several articles on "terra culture." Those given on this page are mainly by persons who have heard "Prof." C. reveal his so called "great secret"—and that on the next page (entitled "The Great Discovery in Vegetation,") by the late A. J. Downing, former editor of "*The Horticulturist*," author of "The Fruits and Fruit Trees of America," "Downing's Landscape Gardening," &c., &c. To these articles we invite the careful attention of any and all persons who suppose there is anything really new that is true or valuable in the theory called "terra culture" as propounded by *Russell Comstock*. On our last page will be found several items and illustrations, including brief extracts from the *N. Y. Tribune* and *Ohio Cultivator*. If the space permitted, or the game was worth the ammunition, we might fill the whole paper with serious, sarcastic, and conclusive condemnations of the theory by our contemporaries of the press. We have also many facts on the subject never given to the public, and several spicy letters from the West, all which, if published, would have a most damaging effect upon the career of the renowned "Professor." But enough is given to put all reading and thinking people on their guard, and others we do not expect to save from fraud and deception.

— We also invite attention to the article by Rev. Dr. Dewey, in a preceding column — and not only the attention of general readers, but of editors. And we respectfully submit that it is the duty of the Press to speak out on this subject, especially in localities where the pretended "secret" is being "disclosed."

Write for the Rural!—Some of its best friends, and most experienced withal, are too modest to write for the Rural. Many of its agents are of this class—men of sound judgment and much experience, but altogether too diffident. One of the best articles we have published for a long time was from a man of this class. In a private note accompanying the article, he modestly says—"I never wrote a half dozen articles for publication in my life. I have always been one of the fast friends of the Rural, and have sometimes wanted to send some of my ideas for publication, but I thought you would consider them *bores*, and went on getting subscribers for *the best paper in the world*. If you think best to trim the accompanying article, and print it, you can do so." Now, such men are the very ones we like to hear from, for they are generally sensible, practical, and to the point. We invite them to contribute the results of their observation and experience for the benefit of Rural readers. And now is the time to do this, for the long evenings and leisure of winter afford opportunity for writing out matters of interest and value to the agricultural community.

Progress of Sugar Growing in the West.—A Western exchange, in noticing the proposed convention of those interested in the growth of Sorgho and Imphee Sugar Cane, (to be held at Columbus, Ohio, on the 7th of Jan. next,) says a similar convention was recently held by the farmers of Winnebago county, at Rockford, Ill. At least fifty specimens of sirup were exhibited, most of them of superior quality, and it was ascertained that the product of the sirup in Winnebago county this year, will not fall short of 30,000 gallons. The estimated amount in 1862 is 100,000 gallons at least, which would make the people of the county independent of Dixie. A Chicago chemist has so refined the sirup that, in purity, flavor, and general excellence, it equals, if it does not excel, that manufactured from the cane of Louisiana. The *Chicago Tribune* says the sugar refinery of Messrs. Belcher & Bro., of that city, is also turning out some excellent results. Occasionally, through the combination of favorable circumstances, crystallization has resulted, and sugar of an excellent quality has been produced. The latter instances are exceptions, however.

Western N. Y. Horses for the Emperor Napoleon.—We have formerly chronicled the Emperor Napoleon's fondness for American horses, and noted some of his purchases in this State and New England. It appears that his Majesty has recently purchased more horses in this country, for the *Boston Cultivator* of last week says:—"The transport Orion, which left this port several days since, took out twelve horses, said to have been purchased for the Emperor by Prince Napoleon, during his late visit to this country. We are not particularly informed in regard to the origin of the horses, but understand that a portion of them were from Western New York, and others from New England, comprising specimens of several branches of the Morgan family."

Flax Cotton Experiments.—During the past season, as we stated at the time, the R. I. Society for the Encouragement of Domestic Industry, offered large premiums for "samples of flax cotton fit for use on cotton machinery." It appears, however, that none of the samples sent in were considered deserving of premiums, although they afforded great encouragement for ultimate success, as being more valuable than cotton for mixing with wool, and in some kinds of goods a partial substitute for wool itself. If the "Universal Yankee Nation" can't produce flax cotton, the "rest of mankind" may give up the attempt.

Poplar Rails are better than Oak, according to the averment of Jos. Roberts, of Ridgeway, Wis., who writes thus to the *Wisconsin Farmer*:—"Observing in your paper a statement relative to the time when timber should be cut to make it durable, I do hereby state that I can produce poplar rails made in the month of April, in the year 1846, that are sound this day, free from rot, and better than any oak rail I have in my fence made at the same date. The trees were felled after the leaf had come out, and in splitting the trees the bark came off, and every rail being free from bark, the timber seasoned at once, hence the durability."

The Weather.—Last week we noted the advent of winter weather and that the first genuine snow storm of the season occurred Dec. 1st. But the snow soon disappeared, and the brief winter was made "glorious summer" by a warm temperature and bright sunshine. As we write (Dec. 10th,) the sun shines brightly, and the air is as balmy as in June. Furs and overcoats are at a discount, and everybody and all their friends are as good natured as a man who has just been elected alderman and has no notes to pay.

The Death of Hon. Henry Wager, of Western, Oneida Co., N. Y., is announced as occurring on the 20th ult. Mr. W. was an extensive farmer, and for many years prominent in both the N. Y. State and United States Ag. Societies—being President of the former in 1852, and of the latter in 1860. He was also one of the Trustees of the New York State Agricultural College.

Rural Items.—*A Sorghum Growers' Convention* is to be held at Columbus, Ohio, on the 7th of next month. A good idea. The success of sugar cane culture in Ohio and the West the past season, will be likely to induce thousands to try it another year.——*The Grain Receipts at Chicago*, for the first eleven months of this year, are estimated at the enormous amount of *forty-four million bushels!*—an increase of fifty per cent. over the large receipts of 1860. Truly, Chicago is "the Granary of the World."——*The American Terraculter* is a proposed substitute for the plow—a rotary digger, illustrated and described in the Rural of Dec. 15, 1860,—while "terra culture," as propounded by one R. C., is quite another thing, as will be seen by illustrations on our last page. Of course even superficial readers will readily perceive the difference between the two articles, and as easily see which is the "contraband" among intelligent soil cultivators.

The Crop of Maple Sugar.—*Hunt's Merchant's Magazine* estimates the crop of maple sugar for the current year at 28,000 tuns. The trees are tapped in February to obtain the product, and the process is usually completed by the end of March. An intelligent judgment may therefore be fairly formed at this date of the aggregate yield by the aid of careful comparison with the ascertained products of former years, and accurate observers generally concur in the opinion that the foregoing is a moderate estimate, viz., 28,000 tuns, or 62,720,000 pounds. Maple sugar may be fairly quoted at eight cents per pound. The aggregate of this current crop is hence $5,017,600.

Thanks to the Press for the handsome notices accorded the Rural New Yorker about these days.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Earthen, China and Glass Ware—Andrew J. Brackett.
The Cranberry and its Culture—Sullivan Bates & Co.
Piano Forte for Sale—Henry Belden.
Engraving—J. Miller.
Agents Wanted—J. S. Pardee.
Flower Seeds Given Away—F. Dutton.
Written Cards—C. A. Walworth.

The News Condenser.

— Fifty eight washing machines were patented in 1859.

— There are now over 52,000 cavalry in the volunteer service.

— The frontier of Canada is to be placed in a state of defence.

— About 400,000 bales of cotton have been annually shipped from Savannah.

— Diptheria is the troublesome disease among our troops at Hilton Head, S. C.

— Fort Ontario, at Oswego, is to receive a new armament of 42 and 64 pounders.

— There are 22,000 miles of railroad in the Union States and 5,000 miles of canal.

— There has been a fresh violation of the Swiss territory by the French, near Geneva.

— A large number of mechanics have been engaged in New York for service at Port Royal.

— There are 1,600 female slaves within the lines of the Federal forces at Fortress Monroe.

— Major-Gen. Hunter has arrived at Leavenworth, and assumed command of the department.

— Nautical men in England express very discouraging opinions in regard to the Great Eastern.

— There are in Indiana 20,000 more boys between the age of five and twenty-one than there are girls.

— The construction of a ship canal between Lake Erie and Michigan, is a project that is being agitated.

— Mystic Hall Seminary at Medford, Mass., was destroyed by fire on Sunday week, at a loss of $16,000.

— A daughter-in-law and daughter of the late G. P. R. James are to open a school in Detroit, Mich.

— Thirty petitions for divorces were granted by the recent term of the Superior Court of Rhode Island.

— Martial law has been declared in Charleston, and no one is allowed to leave the city without a permit.

— The confederate postage stamps, with the head of Jeff. Davis, pass everywhere South for small change.

— The effective strength of the Spanish army is now 271,000 infantry, 23,000 cavalry, and 14,000 artillery.

— Immense quantities of codfish are now taken on a newly discovered bank off the western coast of Scotland.

— It is said that Washington is more crowded than at the commencement of any former session of Congress.

— Kossuth has written another address to the Hungarians. He prophesies the Emperor of Austria's abdication.

— There are about five hundred Chaplains in the army, at a cost of nine hundred thousand dollars per annum.

— Eight hundred and fifty canal boats, bound East, passed Schenectady from the 25th to the 30th of November.

— During October, 32,500 letters were sent from San Francisco, and 25,700 received there by the Overland Mail.

— Passengers from Southern points represent an almost universal reign of terror throughout the rebel States.

— The Atlantic, which sailed from New York for Port Royal Tuesday week, took printing press, cases, type, &c.

— There have been 11,364 miles of submarine cable laid, of which only about 3,000 miles are now in actual operation.

— Kentucky has in actual service, and ready to be mustered into service, 26,000 men, out of a voting population of 90,000.

— The rebels, fearing an attack on Charleston, have constructed a boom across the harbor from Sumter to Sullivan's Island.

— A white woodchuck has been shot at No. 11, Aroostook, county, Maine. The skin is to be preserved in the State Cabinet.

— Out of $400,000 recently disbursed at Port Royal, over $250,000 were sent home at once by the soldiers to their families.

— The Government has decided that, for the present, there can be no trade with South Carolina through the port of Beaufort.

— An English colony have settled on Mount Ararat, and actually established a newspaper there, entitled "The Ararat Advertiser."

— The Illinois Central Railroad Company are building 11 miles of corn cribs along the line of their road, 12 miles south of Chicago.

— Our troops captured at Beaufort 2,500 blankets, tents for 3,000 men, 55 cannon, 500 muskets, and any quantity of ammunition.

— Louisville packers, receiving hogs from Indiana, are required to give bonds that the products will not be furnished to the rebels.

— A mass of copper, weighing six thousand six hundred pounds, from the Evergreen Bluff mines, arrived at Detroit on the 23d ult.

— A grand bear hunt, by forty of the citizens of Lyndon, Vt., on the 20th ult., resulted in the capture of bruin, weighing 138 pounds.

— The diptheria has appeared in the town of Patten, Me., in some two hundred cases, causing thirty deaths since the middle of August.

— A private letter from Port Royal states that one of the Quartermasters has on his own responsibility set about forty cotton gins at work.

— The export of breadstuffs to Europe the present year will far exceed them in any former year. The amount already reaches $110,000,000.

— The town of Litchfield, Ct., has voted to pay its volunteers $17 bounty, additional to that paid by the State and the general Government.

— Gen. Sherman is said to have made up his mind that Beaufort possesses so little strategic importance that it is not worth occupying.

— Rev. A. B. Peabody, of East Longmeadow, Mass., on Thanksgiving week, gathered in the open air some violets as fresh as those of May.

— A party of lads ventured upon the thin ice at Harvard, Mass., Thanksgiving day. Four of the boys broke through and only one escaped.

— The message of the President, containing 7078 words, was sent by telegraph from Washington to New York in one hour and thirty-two minutes.

— The Scientific American recommends soldiers to wear paper between their clothing. It is warmer than cloth, owing to the closeness of its texture.

— Oregon has no magnetic telegraph as yet, but it is arranged that before the middle of 1862 Portland shall be in communication with California.

— Mrs. Phebe H. Brown, author of that fine hymn, commencing, "I love to steal awhile away," died on the 10th of October, at Henry, Ill., aged 78.

— The secesh Postmaster at New Orleans has been issuing one cent shinplasters, "receivable in payment of postage, and redeemable at the Postoffice."

— The rebels purpose to confiscate the estates formerly owned by President Thomas Jefferson, now in possession of Uriah P. Levy, an "alien enemy."

— Mrs. Hannah May died at Bristol, R. I., on the 22d, in the 99th year of her age. For 44 years, from 1791 to 1835, she taught school in her native town.

— Meade & Brother, apothecaries, (Richmond), advertise that inability to procure supplies of medicine compel them to decline most of their former business.

— A French newspaper paragraph says that a pamphlet had appeared, calling on the American Federal Government to take military precaution against French invasion.

HORTICULTURAL.

NEW PLANTS.

In another column will be found an interesting description, by Prof. Dewey, of the *Bonapartea juncea* now flowering in this city for the first time. We do not know that it has ever before flowered in this country. Even in Europe it has seldom bloomed. A gentleman informs us he once saw it in flower in the Duke of Devonshire's Garden.

A correspondent of Ohio gives his experience with some new flowers and vegetables, as follows:

The New French Tree Tomato.—(*Tomate de Laye.*)—This plant is entirely different from the old varieties. It attains the height of two feet or more, quite upright, and self-supporting until the fruit is full grown, when the great weight there, of a dozen or more tomatoes to each plant, causes it to fall over, unless prevented by a stake. It branches less than the old varieties. The leaves are curled, very firm, and closely set on the sturdy branches; their color is a deep shining green. The fruit is of good, uniform size, firm flesh, good flavor, smooth surface, and contains but a few seeds. Color of fruit, a bright scarlet. Aside from its good qualities, as a novelty it is worthy of a place in every garden.

The Scarlet Egg Plant.—This is a new variety, the fruit of which is about the size of a hen's egg, and its color is a bright, deep scarlet, — very ornamental.

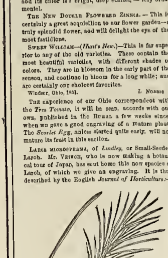
The New Double Flowered Zinnia. — This is certainly a great acquisition to our flower garden—a truly splendid flower, and will delight the eye of the most fastidious.

Sweet William—(*Hunt's New.*)—This is far superior to any of the old varieties. These contain the most beautiful varieties, with different shades of colors. They are in blossom in the early part of the season, and continue in bloom for a long while; and are certainly our choicest favorites.

Windsor, Ohio, 1861. L. Norris

The experience of our Ohio correspondent with the *Tree Tomato*, it will be seen, accords with our own, published in the Rural a few weeks since, when we gave a good engraving of a mature plant. The *Scarlet Egg*, unless started quite early, will not mature its fruit in this section.

Larix microsperma, of *Lindley*, or Small-Seeded Larch. Mr. Veitch, who is now making a botanical tour of Japan, has sent home this new species of Larch, of which we give an engraving. It is thus described by the English *Journal of Horticulture*:—



"Among the conifers sent home by Mr. J. G. Veitch is one which, on account of the unusual smallness of its seeds, Dr. Lindley has named *microsperma*. Mr. Veitch characterizes it as a tree from forty to fifty feet high, with foliage resembling the Spruce Fir in point of color, and very glaucous on the under surface. The leaves are as long as those of *Picea amabilis*, and perfectly silvery underneath. It was found at Hakodadi, in Japan."

Among all the new and beautiful things that flowered with us the past summer, few afforded more pleasure than the double *Dianthus Heddewigii* and *laciniatus*. The latter we grow over three inches in diameter, and quite double. *Heddewigii* was smaller, but fully as double, and both exhibited a charming variety of colors.

GROWING CELERY.—SIMPLE METHOD.

Mr. Editor.—I have often before given my experience in celery culture in different horticultural journals, but never before, that I recollect of, in the columns of the *Monthly*; and if not repeating a twice-told tale to your readers, I will briefly describe a very simple method, and one which I have not before described, whereby any one who can grow a plot of cabbages may grow a plot of celery, and that, too, pretty much in the same manner as in the culture of the cabbage.

The ground necessary for the growth of celery need not be damp, as is generally supposed. Any good, rich vegetable soil, if level, is all sufficient. Although the plant luxuriates in moisture, if properly applied, yet it is as quickly impatient of stagnant water at the roots as almost any other vegetable.

One of the best varieties for private culture is the Incomparable Dwarf, a solid, stocky, white variety, never attaining more than two feet in length, but of the most delicious flavor. This variety is particularly well adapted to this simple mode of cultivation, which consists in planting the plants on the surface, one foot apart *each way*, so as to form a square bed. The object in having the plot thus square or oblong is, that when the celery is so planted, the plants crowd each other when full grown, so that in the struggle for light, the hearts are drawn upwards—one of the most important objects to be obtained; which when the celery is planted in single or double rows, cannot be attained, without the processes of what we call "handling" and "hoeing up." The time of planting is usually the month of July; but if good strong plants can be had, fine celery may be grown by planting in August. Nothing further whatever is necessary in its cultivation but simply hoeing to encourage growth and keep down the weeds, as is done in a cabbage or onion bed. This, then, is the whole process from the time of planting in July until November. Thus far, it is, of course, green—unblanched; the blanching process being done when stored in winter quarters.

The time of digging up, of course, varies somewhat in different localities. In this district we usually have all put away by the middle of November; and after some ten years' experience, we find no plan so simple or so safe as the French or drain system for blanching or preservation.

The process consists in digging a trench or drain ten or twelve inches wide, and of the depth of the length of the celery. The celery is then packed *perpendicularly* in the trench, moderately tight, until the whole is filled up. It will be understood that there is no soil thrown in about the roots — none being necessary. The roots, being at the bottom of the trench, quickly absorb sufficient moisture to encourage new roots, which, as soon as formed, the blanching process is begun, and the celery will be fit for use in four or six weeks from the time of being put in the trench. It is indispensable to cover the trench with leaves or stable litter to the depth of six or eight inches; but this must be done gradually—two or three inches at a time—as the season advances. If put on all at once, it stops the evaporation from the mass of celery packed in the trench, and the blanching being prematurely hastened, it would not keep so well as if covered gradually.

A great advantage we find in this way of preserving winter celery, is in the easy access we get to it in all weathers, — nothing more being necessary than to remove the litter and take out what is wanted and cover in carefully again.

I have been induced to offer these remarks on seeing your article on the subject in last month's number, which, although it is, no doubt, all claimed for it, is expensive and troublesome; and in localities where drain tiles are not to be had, impracticable; while by the plan above narrated, you can have as fine an eating celery as can be produced by any other method, and that, too, at the cost of not more than one cent per head. In field-culture its cost is less than half a cent per head, although the elaborate system of "hunching" it for the New York market costs at least half a cent more.

The above is from the *Gardener's Monthly*, and written by a New Jersey market gardener, and well answers an inquiry that we now have before us. Celery can be grown profitably for market in the neighborhood of any of our large cities. The mode of preserving described, is easy and always safe. We know of no better way in which large quantities can be stored safely. The usual mode here is to dig the trenches, place the celery in them at once, and cover with boards, and perhaps a few leaves until heavy frost, then give a foot or so of leaves. The *Incomparable Dwarf White*, of Turner, we grew last summer, and it is the best small variety we have ever cultivated; stiff, close habit, solid, crisp, and of a peculiar rich nutty flavor, and juicy. It also promises to keep well. *Laings' Mammoth Red* is the best large variety we know of, being of extra size, solid and good.

THE WEATHER — COVERING VINES.

We have now almost a June temperature, the air is mild and balmy, and the sun, although somewhat moderated by the haze peculiar to our Indian summer, shines with a brilliancy quite unusual at this season of the year. We have now in our garden Ten-week-stocks making a good show of flowers, while a few tender things that were left out-of doors to perish are blossoming freely. Our pansies have not produced as fine flowers during the whole season, and they are quite abundant, and even the Chinese Pinks, we noticed this morning, (Dec. 10,) were bursting their buds. How long this will continue we cannot say, but there are those who are prophesying sad destruction among our trees and plants unless we meet with a speedy change. However, we anticipate no evil, as we never knew injury to result from warm weather in the autumn and early winter. A season of rest is natural to vegetation in this climate, and it will take an extraordinary amount of warm weather to produce a flow of sap and swelling of the buds that will be injurious. After a period of rest, in the latter part of winter or early spring, the same amount of warm weather followed by cold would be very likely to result in mischief.

But if the fears that are aroused will induce those who cultivate grapes and raspberries, and other things that are rendered safe by a little protection, to lay them down and cover them, they will not only have the pleasure of enjoying this beautiful weather, but the additional pleasure and profit of securing a good crop of fruit next season. Last year three-fourths of the grapes in Western New York were destroyed by the winter, and while this may not be the case for years to come, we are never certain of a good crop unless the vines are protected. The protection needed is but very little, and will cause but little labor. Cover the branches with straw or evergreens on the trellis, or simply lay them down on the ground and cover with a little earth. In the spring uncover them pretty early, and let them lie upon the ground until the buds grow. If they make much growth, there will be danger of breaking them off in handling the vine to secure it to the trellis. Then tie up, and you will have no dead wood, but your whole vine will be covered with bearing branches.

WONDERFUL PLANT—Bonapartea juncea.

The nursery of Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry has a world-wide fame. A great many plants are raised by them which are not fruit-bearing, in the sense men speak of the apple, pear, grape, &c. Among them are many exotics, cultivated for their flowers or high beauty of their foliage, and still others for their strange forms or great rarity and beauty. Among the last is the *Bonapartea*, named to honor Napoleon Bonaparte. One species is named *Bonapartea juncea*, said to be a native of Peru, South America. It is of the Natural Order *Bromeliaceæ*, and belongs to the *Pine-Apple Tribe*. Its flower has a three-parted or tubular calyx, just inclosing three alternate petals, oblong and nearly equal, being green on the back and greenish-white on the inside; six stamens rise from the calyx and corol, with long and large versatile anthers, and one style long and large, and rising from the three celled pericarp, each cell containing numerous seeds. See also Paxton's *Botanical Dictionary*.

The plant above named has been in the conservatory of Ellwanger & Barry about twenty-two years, and was obtained by them of Mr. Prince on Long Island, and may then have been twenty or more years old. Near the earth, and from the roots below, rises a globular head like the Pine-Apple, but more round, ten or twelve inches in diameter, covered with close-set ovate scales an inch long, and from each of which extends a rush-like tough leaf, four-sided at the base, and upwards, and finally flattening into a spear-form termination. These leaves, about two feet long, curve over in most graceful form, and cover the head entirely. Such has been its appearance for years. About September 10th, there shot out from the top of the head a solid, hard, cylindrical stem, bearing small scales about two inches apart, and ending in a fine spear-like form three inches in length. These scales were arranged in a regular spiral form. The stem grows with great rapidity, sometimes four or five inches in a day, and on one day six inches, round and tapering, till the middle of November. About three feet from the head, two flower buds rose in the axil of each leaf, and in like manner at each leaf to the very top, making hundreds of flowers. At this time, Nov. 28th, the flowers from the first three feet of buds have matured, and the calyx and corol have fallen off from the ovary below, the long stamens withering but holding their white and now woolly anthers in the original shape. On the next three feet the flowers have begun to wither; in the two or three feet above, they are in full bloom, but above these such progress is made as indicates blossoming to the summit in the course of some weeks. The pericarp or seed vessel is hexagonal, more than a half inch long, and one-fourth inch in diameter, and in its three cells where flowers have withered, is an abundance of immature seeds. Were its flowers showy and blue, (as blue is said to be their color in Peru,) it would be an extraordinary curiosity and beauty; as it is, it is admirable.

This is the first instance of the flowering of this plant in the United States. It is known to have flowered in the garden of the Duke of Devonshire, in England, though no reference is made to its having flowered in Europe in the works consulted. Paxton says it is easily raised "in sandy, rich loam, and increases without difficulty from seed." As it is a parasitic plant, or the kind of epiphyte which sends its roots to those of other plants, it may, perhaps, like the Pine-Apple, be propagated by suckers or by cuttings. If this is not true, its like will not remain with us; for it is expected that the plant will not survive this once flowering. It is related somewhat to the Century Plant, and more in its mode of growth than its flowers, which never survives its show of flowers, even though it lives twenty, forty, sixty, or more than a hundred years. With high gratitude for the view of this singular and rare and beautiful plant, it need not be said to those who have eyes to see and taste to enjoy the splendid and magnificent, *time waits for no one.*

Dec. 3d, 1861. C. D.

Horticultural Notes.

Our Native Grapes.—Dr. Morris, of Wilmington, Delaware, writing to the *Horticulturist*, says: "Nature has, I believe, endowed me with a particularly nice organ of taste. Whether this be a blessing or a curse I leave others to determine, but I do most unhesitatingly pronounce that Delawares, Maxatawneys, and Rebeccas are *good*. If the Delawares were as large in berry as the Black Hamburgh, I should think that we might seek no further. As it is, I am afraid that it will disappoint many. As to its undoubted hardiness, there can be no question, and it is decidedly one of the greatest acquisitions the native family ever received, despite Mr. Prince. A larger and a better native Grape is the amber-colored Maxatawney, as I tasted it this autumn at the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, grown, probably, in some city yard. Whether it will be the Grape for general cultivation that the Delaware is, it is too early yet to say; although, judging from the extraordinary vigor and growth, both of my own vines as well as those of my neighbors, I think it safe to predict that it will rival, and may eclipse, the Delaware for general culture. I named Rebecca as being one of the highest flavored Grapes growing out of doors, although I am not disposed to give it the higher place accorded to either of the former. Well ripened Concord Grapes are not bad, nor are some Isabellas and Catawbas that I have eaten to be despised."

The *Maxatawney* may be a good grape south of Philadelphia, and perhaps even in that city, but we have never seen it ripe, although having tasted it in Philadelphia as late as the 20th of September.

Packing Fruits for Long Distances.—I may here state that I have found no better method in all my experience, which extends over a period of twenty years, with all kinds of fruits, varying in distance from fifty to five hundred miles. It simply is box, soft paper, and sweet bran. A box is chosen in size according to the quantity to be sent. A layer of bran is put on the bottom, then each bunch of grapes is held by the hand over a sheet of paper, the four corners of the paper are brought up to the stalk and nicely secured; then laid on its side in the box, and so on until the first layer is finished. Then fill the whole over with bran, and give the box a gentle shake as you proceed. Begin the second layer as the first, and so on until the box is completed. Thus with neat hands the bloom is preserved, and may be sent to any distance; but with clumsy hands, quite the contrary, and often an entire failure, as the putting in and taking out of the box are the most important points to be observed. I have invariably packed sixty or eighty bunches of grapes and fifty or sixty dozen of peaches or apricots in one box, and received letters from employers to say that they had arrived as safe as if they had been taken from the trees that morning.—*Cottage Gardener.*

New French Method of Growing Mushrooms.—The French correspondent of the New York *Times* gives the following new and simple mode of growing mushrooms: "A method has been discovered and reported to the Academy of Sciences for producing mushrooms artificially in any locality. Dr. Labonrete, the discoverer, first develops mushrooms by placing spores on a glass on which he has spread sand and water. He selects the most vigorous ones, and it is with the mycelium of these that he obtains the magnificent specimens of mushrooms he exhibited to the Academy. He disposes his ground in the following manner: Some damp earth, composed of vegetable matter from a swamp, and placed in a cellar, is covered with a layer ten inches thick of sand and river gravel, and this, in turn, by another, six inches thick, composed of plaster derived from the demolition of houses. He sprinkles this earth bed with water containing two grammes (thirty-one troy grains nearly) of azotate of potash to the square yard, after having first sown thereon the mycelium. The specimens shown at the Academy had grown in six days, and the discoverer asserts that the action of the azotate of potash lasts six years."

Flower Leaves an Article of Commerce.—In the south of France, a harvest of two and a half million pounds weight of flower leaves is gathered every year, and sold for about a quarter of a million pounds sterling. It consists of 100,000 pounds of rose leaves, 100,000 pounds of jasmine blooms, 60,000 pounds of violets, 65,000 pounds of acacia buds, and 5000 pounds of jonquil flowers.

How to Judge Celery.—Solid, close, clean; stems not burst, size of the Close Heart is the great point, all others being equal. No outside burst or open, no damaged stalks to be shown. White first, red second, any other color last. If shown for weight, they must be properly trimmed of their green leaves, and no cracked or damaged stems to be passed; and if not perfectly solid, must be rejected.—*Glenny*

Taylor's Bullitt Grape.—At a meeting of the Cincinnati Horticultural Society, recently, a sample of this grape was exhibited by Mr Sterrett, of Glendale, and on motion of Mr. Heaver, it was agreed that from this specimen, and that of others previously exhibited before the Society, they deem it unworthy of general cultivation.—*Field Notes.*

Myrtaceous Plants.—It is said by the *Revue Horticole* that the atmosphere of Australia is filled with the odors of balsam and camphor, from the myrtaceous trees that abound there, and that fevers never exist in even the most malarious of swamps, where these plants grow.—*Gard. Monthly*

Variation in Seedlings.—In 1688 the lady of Ribston Hall, Yorkshire, England, raised two seedlings from the old Nonpareil apple. One tree produced large sour Crabs,—the other the famous Ribston Pippin, the most popular apple in England.

The Newtown Pippin apple is so popular in England that, when the real American article is scarce, it is not unusual to send other kinds to Covent Garden colored up to imitate them.

[From the Horticulturist, April, 1851.]

THE GREAT DISCOVERY IN VEGETATION.

It is one of the misfortunes of an editor to be expected to answer all questions, as if he were an oracle. It is all pleasant enough when his correspondent is lost in the woods, and he can speedily set him right, or when he is groping in some dark passage that only needs the glimmer of his farthing candle of experience, to make the way tolerably clear to him. But correspondents are often unreasonable, and ask for what is little short of a miracle. It is clear that an editor is not only expected to know everything, but that he is not to be allowed the comfort of belonging to any secret societies, or any of those little fraternities where such a charming air of mystery is thrown over the commonest subjects.

We are brought to these reflections by a letter that has just come before us, and which runs as follows:

Dear Sir — I have been expecting in the last two numbers, to hear from you on the subject of the great discovery in vegetation, which was laid before the committee of the State Agricultural Society at its annual meeting in January last. You were, if I mistake not, a member of that committee, and of course, the fullest disclosures of the secret of the gentleman who claims to have found out a new "principle in vegetation," were laid before you. No formal report, has, I think, been published by the Society. The public are, therefore, in the dark still. In this plight, when the discoverer is now urging the legislature of this State to pass a bill giving him a bonus of $150,000 to make his secret public, for the benefit of all cultivators of the soil? Either the thing is pure humbug, or there is something in it worthy of attention. Pray enlighten us on this subject. Yours, &c.

Yes, we were upon that committe, and nothing would give us greater pleasure than to unburden our heart to the public on this subject, and rid our bosom of this "perilous stuff" that has weighed upon us ever since. But alas! this gentleman who has been urging his great discovery upon the attention of congress and the legislature for ten or twelve years past, put all the committee under a solemn vow of secrecy, though we protested at the time against his expecting that a horticultural editor should preserve silence touching anything that is told him *sub rosa*.

And yet we would not treat our correspondent rudely — for his letter only expresses what a good many others have expressed to us verbally. We shall, therefore, endeavor to console him for the want of the learned dissertation on vegetable physiology which he no doubt expected, by telling him a story.

Once on a time there was a little spaniel who lived only for the good of his race. He had a mild countenance, and looked at the first, enough like other dogs. But for all that he was an oddity. Year in and year out, this little spaniel wandered about with a wise look, like the men that gaze at the stars through the great telescopes. The fact was, he had taken it into his head that he was a philosopher, and had discovered a great secret. This was no less than the secret of *instinct* by which dogs do so many wonderful things, that some men with all their big looks, their learning, yes, and even their wonderful knack of talking, cannot do.

It was curious to see how the little spaniel who had turned philosopher, gave himself up to this fancy that had got into his head. He had a comfortable kennel, where he might have kept house, barked, looked after trespassers, where he might have been well fed, and had a jolly time of it, like other dogs.

But no, he was far too wise for that. He had, as he said, found out something that would alter the whole "platform" on which dogs stood, something that would help them to carry their heads higher than many men he could name, instead of being obliged to play second fiddle to the horse. If the community of dogs in general would but listen to him, he would teach them not only how to be always wise and rich, how to be strong and hearty, but above all, how to preserve their scent—for the scent is a pleasure that dogs prize as much as some old ladies who take snuff. In short, the knowledge of this wonderful discovery would bring about a canine millennium — for he assured them that not only was every one of them entitled to his "day," but that "a good time was coming," even for dogs.

And why, you will say, did not our philosopher divulge for the benefit of the whole family of dogs? "It is so pleasant to do something for the elevation of our race," as the traveled monkey thought when he was teaching his brothers to walk on their hind legs. All the dogs in the country could not but owe him a debt of gratitude, since they would soon become so wise that they might even teach their masters something of instinct. And then they would be so happy — since there would not be a downcast tail in all the land—for the whole country would be in one perpetual wag of delight.

Ah! dear reader, we see that you, who put such questions, know nothing either of philosophy, or the world. As if the people who discover why the world turns round, and the stars shine, throw their knowledge into the street for every dog to trample upon. No, indeed! They will have a patent for it, or a great sum of money from the government, or something of that sort. It would be a sorry fellow who should think that every new thing found out is to be given away to everybody for nothing at all, in that manner. To be sure, it would, perhaps, benefit mankind all the more, but that is only half the question. "If you think the moon is made of green cheese," said our early philosopher to his friends, "you are greatly mistaken. I am well satisfied, for my part, that that is only a vulgar error. If it had been, John Bull would have eaten it up for a lunch a long time ago."

So our philosopher went about among his fellow dogs, far and near, and spent most of his little patrimony in waiting on distinguished mastiffs, Newfoundlands, and curs of high degree. He went, also, to all conventions or public assemblies, where wise terriers were in the habit of putting their heads together for the public good. Wherever he went, you would see him holding some poor victim by the button, expounding his great secret, and showing how the progress, yes, and the very existence of dogs, depended upon the knowledge of his *secret*—since it would really explain in a moment everything that had been dark since the days when their great-grandfathers were kept from drowning in the ark. Only let the congress of gray-hounds agree to pay him a million of money, and he would make known principles that would make the distemper cease, and all the other ills that dog flesh is heir to, fade clean out of memory.

Some of the big dogs to whom he told his secret, (always, remember, in the strictest confidence,) shook their heads, and looked wise; others, to get rid of his endless lectures, gave him a certificate, saying that Solomon was wrong when he said there was nothing new under the sun; and all agreed that there was no denying that there is *something* in it, though they could not exactly say it was a new discovery.

Finally, after a long time spent in lobbying, and after wise talks with all the members that would listen to him, yes, and after exhibiting to every dog that had an hour to give him, his collection of dogs' bones that had died solely because of the lamentable ignorance of his secret in dog-dom, he found a committee that took hold of his doctrine in good earnest—quite determined to do justice to him, and vote him a million if he deserved it, but, nevertheless, quite determined not to be humbugged by any false doggerel, however potent it might have been to terriers less experienced in this current commodity of many modern philosophers.

It was a long story, that the committee were obliged to hear, and there were plenty of hard words thrown in to puzzle terriers who might not have had a scientific education in their youth. But the dogs on the committee were not to be puzzled; they seized hold of the fundamental principle of the philosophic spaniel, tossed it, and worried it, and shook it, till it stood out, at last, quite a simple truth, (how beautiful is deep philosophy,) and it was this—

THE GREAT SECRET *of perfect instinct in dogs, is* TO KEEP THEIR NOSES COOL.

Of course, the majority of the committee were startled and delighted with the novelty and grandeur of the discovery. There were, to be sure, a few who had the foolhardiness to remark, that the thing was *not* new, and had been acted upon, time out of mind, in all good kennels. But the philosopher soon put down such nonsense, by observing that the fact might, perchance, have been known to a few, but who, before him, had ever shown the PRINCIPLE of the thing?

And now, we should like to see that cur who shall dare to say the canine philosopher who has spent his life in studying nature and the books, to such good results, shall not have a million for his discovery?

Domestic Economy.

HOW TO MAKE CONE FRAMES.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker.—I am glad my former recipe met with the approbation of at least *one* of your readers.

I noticed the request of "M. A. H." in your last number, and shall be happy to comply with it, as far as I am able. I had thought, before I saw that desire for information concerning cone and shell frames, of sending you the manner in which I prepare cones for use, and also some of the methods of arranging them upon the frame. This is the most favorable season of the year for gathering the strobiles of both pine and hemlock.

In the first place, after procuring them scrape off the gum with a knife, somewhat dull; then put them in warm suds, and tear the carpels apart, after which rinse and clip them. My way of clipping is this: with sharp shears, commence in the dark colored, just below the light, and cut each side till they meet in a point, nearly a half inch below the light colored; then dry them and they are ready for use. This is for the pine cones, the hemlock needs no preparation.

The arrangement depends much upon the taste and skill of the maker. One plain, but very pretty fashion is this: After you have a light wood frame covered with paper, place around the outer edge, with thick glue, a row of carpels, the dark colored pointing in, also a row across the corners; then fill in with carpels overlapping each other and also the first row, until the frame is nearly filled; after which place a row around the inner edge, with the carpels lying in a horizontal direction. The frame is now ready for varnishing.

Another method. After placing one or two rows around the edges, fill in with hemlock cones and acorns, and shells, if you have them. These can be put on in rows, or clusters, as the fancy dictates. If you use hemlock cones, be sure they are well opened by warmth before varnishing. Lucie.

Thompson, Geauga Co., O., 1861.

GOOD COFFEE AND TEA.

It is an old, but nevertheless true saying, that there is daily to be heard and seen something new. Good tea and coffee are beverages that all are fond of, and yet how few there are who know how to suit the tastes of those who keenly relish them. The *Scalpel* reverses the old practice and theory, and says that the true way to obtain good coffee and tea is to put them into cold water, and heat them up to the boiling point, and keep them at that point for a minute or so, in close vessels, so as to prevent any escape of steam. Then, while the flavor is diffused through the liquid, pour it out, sweeten and drink it. Few persons have ever tasted good tea or coffee.

In this country (it continues) ice water has become one of the established drinks, and must, therefore, be treated with some consideration. When taken in quantities of from a teaspoonful to a tumblerful, in hot weather, it is a grateful tonic, and assists the stomach to have appetite, and perform digestion. If much of it is taken at meals, the digestion is stopped, or at least retarded. Free ice water drinkers are never well in their stomach, like other free drinkers.

MAKING HARD SOAP.

Eds. Rural New-Yorker:—Mrs. S. L. A., of Flint, Mich., wishes some one to send a receipt for making hard soap. I send mine, which I have used for two years, and know to be good. Take three pounds of sal soda; one and a half of unslaked lime; two gallons of rain water. Heat it boiling hot in a brass or copper boiler or kettle; then put it in an earthen vessel to settle over night, carefully pouring off the top so as not to pass any of the ingredients; then take three pounds of clean grease and boil until thick; when done pour it in vessels so as to cut it in bars to suit your taste. Should it not thicken when done, let it cool, then take the top, and boil it up with a little rain water. L. M. C.

Northville, Mich., 1861.

A Good Sweet Apple Pie.—Having received much benefit from the Rural, I thought I would send you a recipe for a sweet apple pie. Take six good sweet apples of medium size, pare, quarter and core, the same as for sauce, stew them soft, then beat them fine with one egg, add one teacupful new milk. Spice to your taste. Line a pie plate the same as for custard, and bake half an hour.—M. F., *Cassadaga, N. Y.*, 1861.

Bird's Nest Pudding.—One cup cream; 1 cup sweet milk; 1½ cups flour; 1 teaspoonful tartar; ½ teaspoonful soda; 3 eggs; little salt. Dress tart apples to the amount of one pint; stew and sweeten them some. Then take a two quart basin, butter it well, place the apples in the center, pour the batter over, and bake one hour. Dressing to eat on the pudding—Sugar, butter, flour, cooked with boiling water.—H. G. M., *Saratoga, N. Y.*, 1861.

Remedy for Rheumatism.—Beat up well three fresh hen's eggs,—the more you beat them the better. Mix one half ounce each of the oil of origanum and the spirits of hartshorn. After these are well mixed, take half a pint of strong vinegar, and mix all together. Put in a bottle, and shake well every time used. On going to bed, rub the parts affected.

L. J. Brown.

Cements.—Three parts ashes, three parts clay, and one part sand, is said to make a cement as hard as marble, and impervious to water. Loose handles of knives and forks may be re-fastened by making cement of resin and brick dust. Heat the handle and pour in the cement very hot. Seal engravers use a cement made as follows: Melt a little isinglass in spirits of wine, adding one-fifth water, and using a gentle heat. When well melted and mixed, it will form a transparent glue, which will unite glass so firm that the fracture will hardly be seen.

Pumpkin Pies.—My wife sends you a recipe for pumpkin pies which we consider a first rate substitute for apple. Take a raw pumpkin, cut it in small, thin pieces, (like sliced apples,) pour hot water on the pieces and let them partially cook. For a common round baking tin, two tablespoonfuls of vinegar, and three of sugar. Season and cover with crust, like apple pies.—S. L., *McDonough, N. Y.*, 1861.

[Special Notice.]

Aid Digestion.—Some people are prejudiced against the use of Saleratus, and say that it is very unhealthy. But Chemists and Physicians say that pure Saleratus is not only perfectly healthy, but is a corrector of the stomach and an aid to digestion. We are happy to assure our patrons that in procuring D. B. De Land & Co.'s Chemical Saleratus, they will be in possession of a perfectly pure article, and one that will do you good.

Ladies' Department.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

"MY MOTHER."

The last words that fell from the lips of my dying soldier-brother, Lieut. P. B. Wager, of the Thirty-second Regiment of N. Y. S. V., who died Oct. 22nd, of typhoid fever, at Alexandria, aged 26 years and 8 months.

BY MINNIE MINTWOOD

The fever was burning in the veins
  Of a youth in a far off land,
And the heated brow felt the cooling touch
  Come from none but a stranger's hands.
Must he who had love, and home, and friends,—
  Must he die away from them all?
Would no loved hand smooth the death-damped brow
  When he heard the pale angel's call?

He had yielded all for his country's weal,
  And the foemans' steel he had dared—
For Right he had wielded aloft his sword,
  For his Land his heart he had bared;
And now, when his rich, young life ebbed out,
  Were there none from his Northland home
To go down with him to the River's brink,
  To the River so dark and lone?

There was one who in years agone laid down
  All the dross of Life's dregged alloy
She came with a noiseless step and kissed
  The pale brow of her dying boy.
She hovered 'round his couch and he felt
  Her soft hands smooth his damp hair,
And he knew, by the glorious halo of light,
  That his angel mother was there.

But those who had watched his eyes grow dim
  Did not know a loved one had come,
To go with the boy to the River's brink—
  Aye! over the River so lone!
She whispered his name,—then beckoned away,—
  With a smile, "*my mother!*" he cried,
And over the River the mother went
  With the brave young Hero that died!

Hilldale Farm, Tomp. Co., N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING.

The 29th of last June was sad a day, not only for Great Britain, but for all the great "republic of letters,"—for all who admire energy and perseverance in man, and lofty genius combined with all that is lovely and of good report in woman. In the early dawn of the morning the freed spirit of Elizabeth Barrett Browning winged its way from the banks of the Arno to, we humbly hope and believe, a brighter, purer clime than that of the "sunny Italy" she loved so well; while in the afternoon of the same melancholy day the last sad rites of humanity were paid to England's Scotch Lord Chancellor, Lord Campbell, the learned author of the lives of his predecessors in office, within the venerable walls of Jedburgh Abbey; and to the distinguished and much respected Chief of the London Fire Brigade. It is not, however, of these last named worthies, but of the gifted poetess who "sung the song of Italy," and "wrote *Aurora Leigh*," that we now essay to speak. But all that we aim at is to give a brief and hasty glance at the chief points in her bright literary career, which may at once serve to gratify our own feelings of loving respect, and serve as a memorial of her to the numerous readers of the Rural.

Elizabeth Barrett was born in London, in 1809, and, as is abundantly evident from her works, was educated with great care, and after a more masculine model than was usual in England at that time. The world, as well as herself, has reaped the benefit of the thorough intellectual discipline and furnishing supplied by the classic studies of her early youth. Her public literary career commenced in 1826, when she was only in the 17th year of her age, by the publication of her "Essay on Mind, and other Poems." This volume has been pronounced by competent critics a most extraordinary production for so young a writer, displaying a compass and depth of thought far beyond her years. The brilliant expectations which it excited were fully sustained by the appearance, in 1833, of "Prometheus Bound," which was afterwards greatly improved in the new translation, issued in 1838.

In the interval the gifted writer drank deeply not only of the fountains of Grecian poetry, but of the cup of human suffering, both mental and physical; for in the year 1837 she broke a blood vessel on the lungs, which for many years refused to heal. During her residence at Torquay, (a fashionable watering place beautifully situated at the eastern extremity of the magnificent expanse of Torbay,) whither she was ordered for her health, her enfeebled physical system and warm affectionate spirit received a shock from which it took years to recover. On a fine summer's day her brother was drowned within sight of the house she occupied, the boat in which he was, going down while crossing the bar, without any apparent cause. This mysterious and tragical event nearly killed Miss Barrett, who assured her friend, Miss Mitford, that during the whole of the succeeding winter "the sound of the waves rang in her ears like the moan of the dying." For may years afterwards she lived in a darkened room, seeing no one but the members of her own family, and her most intimate friends. During this period she read voraciously, not only of modern literature, but the poetry and philosophy of the ancient Greeks, in which she took especial delight. She also wrote "Geraldine's Courtship," and a number of papers in the *Athenæum*.

Her acquaintance with Mr. Robert Browning, the poet, which commenced about this time, appears to have exercised a most salutary influence upon her sensitive nature. "Love, the great magician," brought restorative influences before unknown, and in 1846 these well-mated souls were united in marriage, and took up their residence in Italy, first at Pisa, afterwards at Florence, where they continued to reside until Mrs. Browning's death. The influence of this new and tender relationship has been happily delineated by an appreciative writer, as follows:—"The growth and progress of this new feeling (conjugal love) and its effects upon her heart and mind are described with rare grace of expression as well as exquisite depth and tenderness of feeling in that remarkable series of poems called "Sonnets from the Portuguese," which appeared for the first time in the second edition of her collected poems in 1850."

In 1849, the birth of a son crowned Mrs. Browning's sum of earthly happiness and completed the circle of life's relationships. But even this last tender and beloved claim upon her time and attention could not abate her literary zeal and industry. In 1851 appeared the striking poem—"Casa Guidi Windows," so full of noble sympathy with the cause of the oppressed Italians, and in 1856, the greatest of her works—"Aurora Leigh," which, in spite of much that is wild, improbable, and far-fetched, and something of questionable propriety, will ever be considered the best, the most mature of her works, the one in which her rich creative genius is most apparent, and her Promethean imagination has the fullest play, warming with her own vivid, earnest feelings the peculiar productions of her masculine intellect, and justifying the terse and comprehensive criticism, "She thinks all like a man, and feels like a woman."

We now arrive at the last sad scene in that "Casa Guidi," which her pen has made classic and which has since become doubly dear to her friends and admirers. A severe cold was the harbinger of the angel of death, and for the first half of the week that her brief illness lasted, no danger was apprehended. So little indeed did Mrs. Browning herself realize her critical condition, that not until the last day did she consider herself sufficiently unwell to remain in bed. In the evening she conversed cheerfully with an intimate lady friend, and when she repeated the opinion she had heard expressed by a friend of Ricasoli, that his policy and that of Count Cavour were identical, "smiled like Italy," and replied, "I am glad of it, I thought so." And her "own bright boy," on bidding his dear mother "good night," was cheered by the assurance, "I am better, dear, much better."

But, alas! the hope which illuminated his pillow was a deceptive one, for before he awoke again his mother had passed away from earth, having breathed her last at half-past four in the morning of that sad 29th of June, which we have mentioned as a dark day for England. The loving woman-poet died so calmly and peaceably in the arms of her poet-husband that till the loved form grew chill, he knew not that his dearest earthly treasure had gone from him. Her last words were, "It is beautiful!" Who can say that they were occasioned by the first faint, dim perception of the glories of that bright, sinless region, where dwells "the king in His beauty," which were so soon to be completely unvailed to her disembodied spirit?

On the evening of the 1st of July, while the last bright rays of the setting sun were gilding the scene, and preaching eloquently the doctrine of the resurrection, the mortal remains of Elizabeth Barrett Browning were conveyed to their last resting place, in the beautiful English cemetery outside the walls of Florence. A band of true mourners—the representatives of three nations,—England, the United States and Italy,—who loved and reverenced her, stood around her grave, and their tears would not, could not be restrained, notwithstanding the sweet echo from the tomb, of her own well remembered words,

"And friends, dear friends, when it shall be
  That this low breath is gone from me,
    And round my bier ye come to weep,
  Let one most loving of you all
  Say, 'Not a tear must o'er her fall—
    He giveth His beloved sleep.'"

Cobourg, C. W., 1861. Gervas Holmes.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

WOMAN'S PERPLEXITIES.

Some woman *will be* cross, or fretful, let them be placed in whatsoever position—very kind-hearted women, in the main, too. They will storm around in a vexed, angry, "get out of my way" air; fly into explosions at the least hinderance or delay to their plans, as though the welfare of the whole Government of the United States depended on their having a certain piece of house-work done at a time specified by themselves in their programme for the day's business. Such women never ask, or care, whether any other one's calculations are to be upset to gratify them—*they must* have *their* will and way, if it were to put an end to the world. Where such a woman lives there must always be sacrifices, bitter feelings, recriminations, &c.

No man ever was happy with a willful, head-strong woman, and *vice versa*. A man, or woman, who can not give up their own will, never ought to sustain the relation of husband, wife, or parent.

And some women *do* have such severe trials, and crosses, and vexations, it really seems they *cannot* always keep their temper, and I do think, men generally are disposed to underrate women's exertions and labors. The real wear and tear of the thousand-and-one petty annoyances of housekeeping are neither known nor believed. But a woman who is raising a family, and at the same time superintending her housework, is subject to the most severe toil and discipline. To keep a family clothed properly for the various seasons, food properly cooked and ready in season, with all the nameless *etcetera* of housekeeping gear kept in successful revolution, taxes every nerve and power of thought. And then, to accomplish all this with a little child following, clinging to one's skirts, crying for care. O man, little you know how it wears and tries one to work thus! You work hard at some stated, steady employment, but how it frets you if, having some job in the house, the little one gets in your way, or meddles with your tools. You "*can't*, and you *wont* stand it!" Mother, did you ever take a piece of sewing and baby did not pull at it, or lay down scissors, or spool, or wax, and some sweet, dear, mischievous pet did not run off with them and forget where they were put? Little, nimble feet, and scarcely lisping tongues, too tiny and too innocent to punish—yet, what plagues, and how they *do* try you!

Patience, patience and charity! O, these, friends, we *must* have for each other! We must "render honor unto whom honor is due, and unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's." Quercus.

Treatment of Infants.—Rest is the infant's natural requirement until it begins to creep. As for periodical exercise by riding it about cramped up in a little wagon, it is absurd. If the child's brain were not jarred and its circulation hindered by the unnatural motion, till it is compelled into a sort of stupor, which is taken for sleep, it would evince its dissatisfaction by its cries. The crystal is only formed according to its natural law, when the water in which the salt is dissolved is in a state of quiet; and the seed requires warmth and quiet before its rootlet strikes into the ground, and its leaves open to the light of day. We would caution every young mother against preternatural excitement of the nervous system of her infant by too early exercise and too much notice of any kind, either by the voice or by teasing or handling. A natural diet, and a year's rest in a good, well ventilated chamber, is calculated to insure a healthful acquirement of its teeth, and the use of its limbs, at the proper and appointed time.

The Good Wife.—She commandeth her husband in any equal matter, by constant obeying him. She never crosseth her husband in the spring-tide of his anger, but stays till it be ebbing water. Her clothes are rather comely than costly, and she makes plain cloth to be velvet by her handsome wearing it.—*Fuller*.

Women never truly command till they have given their promise to obey.

Choice Miscellany.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

DREAMING.

It is very pleasant dreaming,
By the fireside's quiet gleaming,
  When the evening shadows fall;
Just to let one's fancies fly
To the golden years that lie
  In the future of us all.

For who knoweth aught of sorrow
In the coming of the morrow?
  Though to-day be dark and drear,
Through the shadows we can see
Glimpses of the far to be,
  Bathed in sunshine, soft and clear.

So to-night I sit here dreaming,
While the embers' pleasant gleaming
  Lights the pictures on the wall.
Visions of a glorious name,
Of the poet's deathless fame,
  Softly o'er my spirit fall.

Now my brow is crowned with bays,
And I hear dear words of praise
  From the lips of those I love
Ah! those words are worth far more
Than the richest golden store,—
  Words of praise from those we love!

And I win a golden treasure,
It would yield to me no pleasure,
  Could I share it with no friend;
So my darling ones it blesses,
And I, sharing their caresses,
  Feel a joy that ne'er was penned.

Oh! that this were not all dreaming,—
That the future, brightly beaming,
  Could be half so full of bliss!
But I patiently will wait,
Knowing, if God *please*, my state
  Shall be otherwise than this.

Cambria, N. Y., 1861. M.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

WINTER BIRDS.

One of the prettiest objects a winter landscape affords is seen in the birds that, singly or in flocks, flit about our houses, fields, orchards and gardens, sometimes lighting on trees or bushes near the door, sometimes even fluttering against the windows, as if envious to witness the ways of human domestic life, or desirous of sharing the warmth and comfort within. No other than a human cry for shelter and protection touches the benevolent, sympathetic heart with a more piteous, appealing sound, than to hear one of these "wee, helpless things" come beating against the window-pane, to which the cheerful light within has attracted it, and from which any movement of welcome will send it frightened away.

Winter birds excite our interest and curiosity in many respects. First, their extreme hardiness, so superior to that of other birds that they find Summer in our season of frost and snow, is sufficient to call forth our wonder and admiration. To what their great power of resisting cold is due—by what means they are enabled to live in a temperature that would prove fatal to tenderer birds—whether on the approach of Spring they seek a more Northern latitude—what they find to eat when the ground is frozen and perhaps covered deep with snow—where they fold their wings at the coming of the bleak, wintry night, when the leafless trees can afford no shelter—the popular superstition that the appearance of flocks of snow-birds, so-called, indicate a speedy fall of snow, while brown birds are held to be sure precursors of rain—these and other considerations tend to invest them with a peculiar and romantic interest.

We are accustomed to think and speak of Winter as a season made desolate by the absence of bright flowers, green leaves, singing birds and babbling brooks; and to perhaps most of us the coming and going of the robin, the blue-bird, the oriole, the bobolink, and other summer birds, seem alone worthy of attention, the habits and movements of the winter king, the chick-a-dee, and the whole class of hardy, feathered songsters, passing nearly or quite unnoticed. Indeed, we easily and naturally associate birds with Summer; birds and Winter are scarcely thought of together.

The difference between Summer and Winter birds with respect to their gentleness and familiarity with man, almost warrants us in distinguishing the former as tame or domestic, the latter as wild birds. Those hover about our dwellings, seem to invite our acquaintance and sing for our satisfaction. They pick and eat our berries, help us destroy noxious insects, build their nests hardly outside our houses, almost taking materials out of our hands to put into them, and in various ways signify their desire for human companionship. These, on the contrary, though they not altogether shun the abodes of men, manifest the most provoking shyness in all their movements. They pay us only *flying* visits, and any attempt at coaxing frightens them into instant departure. Their singing seems not intended for our ears. Unlike the full gushing melody of Summer birds, that commands attention by its heartiness and continuance, theirs is scarcely more than a single note, uttered in a hurried way, almost escaping observation, but, when heard, conveying to the ear a simple, exquisite wildness of tone, in keeping with the free, rude, untamed nature of the singer. A.

South Livonia, N. Y., 1861.

COURAGE AND BRAVERY.

Bravery is more hasty, impetuous and transient; courage, more calm, enduring, and principled. Bravery is an impulse, or a mere outward habit; courage is a life, pervading the nature. Bravery takes advantage from plumes and gay equipage. It rises with rapidity and splendor of movement. It calls to its aid the stimulations of music, or the higher stimulations of popular applause; and it looks for reputation as its trophy and reward. Courage is deeper, more magnanimous, and self reliant. It holds its own reward within it, and is entirely superior to any accident of incitement. It is ready to bear, as well as to perform; is as great in the forest as it is in the field; as great, when announcing a new and strange truth, or resisting the backward rush of a nation, as when treating of themes that have watchwords and champions, and that kindle the minds of millions with their contest. It sings and is cheerful amid obscure sufferings; and is serenely fixed and unconquerable when contemplating obloquy and popular reprobation, as when welcomed with applause and anticipating victory. Courage is silent till the crisis arrives. Bravery is demonstrative, and fire in utterance. The one hides its time, secure of itself. The other craves constant exhibition and action. Courage is an essential spirit of character, which imbues action as the fragrant and subtile fumes of the alchemists were designed to imbue the cimeter of Damascus. Bravery is a special and occasional style of feeling, which would etch upon that action its splendid devices.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

TRUE PATRIOTISM.

A noble quality is patriotism; of all honors which can be conferred, that of being called a patriot seems most worthy of being sought after. Noble, because amidst the selfishness of all human actions this seems least selfish.

Little sympathy can an individual expect so long as he labors only for self, or perhaps the indirect advancement of his own interest. But when a person devotes a life to the interest of his country, or goes forth risking that life in its defense, how different.

A Lyons fell, and at his fall the heart of a great nation bowed itself in sorrow; he was a sacrifice upon the altar of his country; and if no marble column marks his resting place, no studied phrase his epitaph, a more enduring monument, a juster epitaph shall exist in the hearts of his countrymen—he was a patriot.

But shall it be *only* upon the statesman or warrior that we confer this magic name? May not some silent worker in the study room, debarred of the stimulus of the senate hall or the battle field, some teacher of morals or science, earnestly striving to better or enlighten his fellow beings, equally deserve the name and honors of the patriot? Without virtue, enlightenment, and liberty, no government is worth its cost; and shall not those by whom these signal virtues can alone be brought out and perfected, at least be granted this name?

Napoleon has been called a patriot. France during his reign extended her boundaries, increased her commerce and her wealth. But was it patriotism in its *true* sense? What pen shall be able to record the tales of desolated homes, of widowed wives and orphan children; of pillaged towns and burning cities, that his dear bought victories produced. His so-called patriotism rarely extended beyond his own interest, never beyond his own land. Can we truly say the world is better for his having lived in it? If not, does he deserve the title?

Washington was a true patriot. The interest of his whole country was ever his first object, but never at the expense of the rights of another. But not less in private than in public life was this virtue shown. His sterling integrity, his law-abiding life, his charity, I believe equally deserve the name, as his most lauded public acts; and long after party triumphs, or the memory of conquests have sunk to oblivion, shall these be remembered as deserving the name of true patriotism. J. A. Smith.

Springfield, Wis., 1861.

VITAL FORCES OF THE AGE.

Battle fields are the rallying points, not only of armies, but of principles as well; they are the jointings of history; nay more, they are the anvils on which God hammers the nations and shapes them to the end of his designs. By these rough smitings he quickens the blood, and wakens the energies of men; breaks up the disintegrating processes of mere self-seeking; lays bare principles which get covered up, and inspires fresh loyalty to them; and so enlarges the life of nations, breaks the seals of prophecy, and opens new eras to the race.

Our nation has passed one such epoch; the moral forces that moved the world made our Revolution a necessity. We are now in the midst of a second—the more desperate and more decisive of the two. The pressure of these vital forces has brought us to it; the logic of events has made it inevitable; it could not be avoided without moral retrogression. We shall pass this also; and from a somewhat reckless and rollicking boyhood, enter upon a riper and nobler, as well as a more sober national manhood.

Nations old and effete perish in such convulsions; but young, vigorous, self-reliant peoples like our own, who rise to meet the emergency with such alacrity and loyalty as we have shown, not only survive, but gain wisdom and strength from the rough experience.

"Thrice is he armed who hath his quarrel just,"

both because he fights with better heart and because all the elements in the moral world fight for him and against his foes. "They fought from Heaven," as Deborah sang, "the stars fought in their courses against Sisera." With such allies,—and who can doubt that we have them in this struggle,—can the issue be doubtful? Will He who sifted Europe for seed, and brought it hither in the Mayflower, and cast out the heathen and prepared room for it, and has covered a thousand leaping hills and rejoicing valleys with the verdure of His sowings—will He, while hardly the first fruits of autumn have been gathered, leave the harvest to waste and destruction? No! no! by the faith of the Pilgrims; by the prayers of a godly ancestry; by the deliverances through our early struggles; by the hopes of the oppressed of all nations; by the smiles of a benignant Providence; by the justness of our cause (not the righteousness of ourselves); by all that is vital in truth and holy in religion, and triumphant in right, we cannot doubt the issue of this struggle, or question the aid of His hand who has led us so far. The past is prophetic of the future. As when in the dead colors on the canvas there are seen the clearly traced outlines, we judge it to be the purpose of the artist to put in the finer touches, till his own ideal transfigures the canvas into a thing of beauty and of life, so our national history anticipates our hopes; it does more, it *complements* them. The principles of 1620, and of 1776, have reached but half their development; they will be more than restored by this struggle; and liberty, healed of her wounds, her virtue no longer tainted, nor her beauty marred, shall stand in the temple of Freedom, and feed the fires which are at once the flame of patriotism and a load-star to the nations.

Rich Men's Sons.—One of the greatest difficulties and dangers arising from the sudden accumulation of wealth is felt in the ignorance it occasions as to how a family should be managed. The bearings of this upon the health are the first and most obvious. There is many a gentleman who commenced life as a lad on a farm, running where he pleased, in wet or shine, barefooted and bareheaded. He never took cold, had a fine disposition, a clear head and a manly heart, was always hungry at meal times, and always tired at bed time, and always happy while awake. But his industry has brought wealth, and he lives in a city and in style, and his sons always are catching colds, and their food disagrees with them, they are pale and sickly, and there seems to be no way for them to take exercise without spoiling their fine clothes, and nothing for them to do but what occasions mischief in his sumptuous dwelling.

He who is open, without levity; generous, without waste; secret, without craft; humble, without meanness; bold, without insolence; cautious, without anxiety; regular, yet not formal; mild, yet not timid; firm, yet not tyrannical;—is made to pass the ordeal of honor, friendship, virtue.

Sabbath Musings.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

REST, SPIRIT, REST.

BY LAURA M. CLARKE.

Rest Spirit, in the midnight hour,
When nature learns the soothing power
    Of quiet sleep:
Rest, from the weary toil of day,
When slumber sweet asserts her sway,
    In silence deep.

Rest, Spirit, from all worldly care,
And gently breathe to Heaven a prayer,
    For rest and peace:
Rest, thou, when *hope* itself has fled,
And cherished dreams have from thee sped;
    Cease, murmurings, cease.

Oh, rest when freed from earth's dull cares,
Its pains and sorrows, sighs and tears,
    Rest, Spirit, rest;
Rest thou, when all around thee weep,
And thou dost sleep that dreamless sleep,
    In silence blest.

Rochester, N. Y., 1861.

[Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.]

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING.

Prayer is the soul's worship, and the expression of the soul's desires. It is a Christian duty of the first importance; but even the best Christian does not always feel this. There are times in his experience when he is almost ready to exclaim, "God sees me through and through,—I am at an infinite distance from Him in holiness and wisdom,—He understands my wants infinitely better than I do myself, and is desirous of giving me the blessing that I really need—should a finite being like myself supplicate for a particular blessing from Infinite Wisdom and Benevolence?"

But the relation of the Christian to God is, in an important sense, like the relation of a tender father to a beloved son, upon whom he had power to bestow any blessing, but should say, "The greater the endowment which I bestow upon my son, the greater will be my own praise; and I desire to give to him without limitation save by his capacity to use and enjoy; but I shall only bless him in answer to his asking, and the magnitude of my blessings will be determined by the extent of his desires. He may ask for that which it is not best for him to have; but when he expresses desire, he shall receive that which I know it is best for him to receive." How precious is the privilege of prayer! Every true Christian can recall cheering memories of precious hours which have been his from communing with Heaven. There can be no Christian life without faithfulness in this duty; for it is only in answer to prayer that divine blessings of a spiritual kind are received. As soon as prayer is neglected, or heartless, or suspended, doubts take the place of faith, the light of the soul fades away, the shadows deepen, the graces languish, and the heaven-life of the soul is greatly dwarfed or entirely extinguished.

But in order to a correct apprehension of the meaning of the text, "Pray without ceasing," it is necessary to understand the nature of prayer. We certainly are not to be at all times giving vocal utterance to prayer to God, nor even to be engaged in silent prayer. Paul, when delivering his impassioned and matchless discourse to the Athenians from Mars-hill, was as really in the path of duty as when he meekly exclaimed, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" There is great depth of meaning in the reply of the Savior to the woman of Samaria, "God is a Spirit; and those that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." Our spirits must worship the Infinite Spirit, or our prayers will be but mockery, and will prove as fruitless of good as though offered to the trees or stones. In this view, we can at least begin to understand the idea of the continuity of prayer embodied in the words, "Pray without ceasing." True prayer is independent of time and place. The vocal utterance and the private closet are only accommodations to our present state. The poet had the true and comprehensive view of prayer when he sang,

"Prayer is the burden of a sigh,
  The falling of a tear,
The upward glancing of an eye,
  When none but God is near."

"Prayer is the soul's sincere desire,
  Unuttered or expressed!"

and there is a sense in which all men pray. The countless idols of the heathen world are the soul-cries of benighted millions who are blindly feeling after the Eternal. Every profane man prays,—woe, if his prayers are answered! Prayer is even independent of all utterance; for God truly hears only what the soul expresses. The Christian prays more than he thinks. The one who feels his weakness, and trusts alone in Christ, is not only in the spirit of prayer at all times, but his very life is a continued prayer to God. He really "prays without ceasing." How blest is the state of such a one! Growing up into Christ! His death is but a glad and welcome transition from pain and shadows to bliss and glory. A. T. E. C.

Academy, New Haven, Vt., 1861.

Christian Love.—Jesus sums up all the commandments in the one little word, *love*—supreme love to God, and love to our neighbor as to ourselves. Were His blessed law thus obeyed, what a happy world this would be! Of the early Christians it was often said, "See how these men love one another." They obeyed and followed their Lord in this, and we are equally bound to do so. We are taught to count *all men* as our neighbors, and as such to love and seek their good, but especially to love as *brethren* the believing people of Christ, if we are true Christians. We are children of the same family, travelers on the same journey, laborers in the same vineyard, soldiers in the same army. We hope to dwell forever in the same blessed home. During our short race and pilgrimage, let us seek to walk together in love.

True Prayers.—A living faith in moral and religious truth expands the mind, quickens the intellect to grasp all truth that comes within its reach; excites the imagination to admire the beautiful; and finds delight in tracing out the works of God, with all their benevolent arrangements, through which we are led to love and adore our common heavenly Father. This is true human progress.

As it is the sun that ripens, as it is the sun that gives color and flavor, as it is the sun that is required to do all things in the life of a plant; so, in the life of every man the power of God on the soul is indispensable to the development of the higher faculties, and their development in the highest forms.

The wise man justly regards goodness as something to be attained.

The Reviewer.

The Rebellion Record: A Diary of American Events, 1860-61. Edited by Frank Moore, author of "Diary of the American Revolution." In Three Divisions, viz:—I. Diary of Verified Occurrences. II. Poetry, Anecdotes, and Incidents. III. Documents, etc. New York. G. P. Putnam.

Monthly Part 8, of volume II,—containing Nos. 32, 33, and 34,—has been received. We are making history hand over hand in these degenerate days, and we do not conceive any better form in which to cherish a record than is exhibited in this work. The present portion contains beautiful steel portraits of Major General John E. Wool, Commodore S. H. Stringham, Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, and Gen. P. G. T. Beauregard. The Weekly issues are sold at 10 cents, and the Monthly at 50 cents. Dewey is the agent for Rochester and vicinity.

The London Quarterly Review. Reprinted by Leonard Scott & Co., New York.

The present critical condition of European affairs renders such publications as the London Quarterly, Edinburgh and North British Reviews unusually interesting, occupying, as they do, the middle ground between the newspapers and the histories. Occurrences and transactions have opportunity to be digested before treatment, hence hastily written arguments, crude suggestions, and flying rumors, are not to be found in their Table of Contents. Although the London Quarterly does not furnish anything very striking, politically, in its last issue, a series of nine entertaining articles are presented, as follows:—Life of Shelley; Life, Enterprise, and Peril in Coal Mines; The Immutability of Nature; Newton as a Scientific discoverer; The Growth of English Poetry, Plutarch, Education of the Poor; Alexis de Tocqueville; Church Rates. Dewey is agent.

Chamber's Encyclopædia: A Dictionary of Universal Knowledge for the People. On the basis of the latest edition of the German Conversations Lexicon. Illustrated with Maps and Numerous Wood Engravings. Published in Parts, price 16 cents each; to be comprised in six or seven volumes, similar in appearance to the volumes of "Chamber's Information for the People." Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.

The third volume of this invaluable work is now nearly completed, No. 37 being received, and the admirable style which marked the earlier issues is fully and faithfully carried forward under the administration of Messrs. Lippincott & Co. The treatment of the various departments embraced in this Encyclopædia has received commendations from the acknowledged leaders in the respective topics or vocations cited for analysis and discussion, as "full, complete, reliable," and it would be a pleasure to know that it was being domesticated in every American home. The work is well prepared, the subjects admirably digested and adapted to the end designed. Published in Parts of 84 pages, semi monthly, at 16 cents each, to be paid for on delivery. James Ratcliffe is agent for Rochester and vicinity.

Books for the Young.—The most attractive Juvenile Books issued of late, are from the press of Carlton & Porter, New York, and sold by E. Darrow & Brother, Rochester. One series, Meadowside Stories, consists of eight volumes, in a box, price $1 75. The volumes are beautifully illustrated, and respectively entitled as follows:

"Meadowside; or, Aunt Grace and Dora."
"Sally Grafton and her Teacher."
"The Dock. A Story of the Mountains."
"Faithful Lina: the Story of Three Swiss Orphans."
"Katie and her Mother; or, the Widow's Trust."
"Victor; or, Paris Troubles and Provence Roses."
"Good Daughters; or the Sea-shore and the Cottage."
"Antoo, the Peasant Boy."

The other series—Cousin Anna's Library—comprises the same number of volumes, (in a box, price $1,) entitled—

"Tom, the Oyster Boy."
"Willie and Clara."
"Freddy's Fifth Birthday."
"Two Boys Side by Side."
"My First Sunday-School."
"Sunday Evening Readings."
"Coney and Andy."
"Harry Perry."

—These works are admirably adapted to the comprehension and moral instruction of the young, and we commend them to parents and others wishing to procure suitable books as holiday presents for the little folks. They are gotten up in beautiful style.

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BOOKS RECEIVED.

The press upon our pages precludes us from giving more than a mere acknowledgment of the following works, though many of them are worthy of extended notice.

The Okavango River. A Narrative of Travel, Exploration, and Adventure. By Charles John Andersson, author of "Lake Ngami." With numerous Illustrations and a Map of Southern Africa. [8vo.—pp. 414.] New York: Harper & Brothers. Rochester—Steele & Avery.

Wolfert's Roost and other Papers, now first collected. By Washington Irving. Author's Revised Edition. New York: Putnam. Rochester—Dewey.

Chronicle of the Conquest of Granada. From the MSS. of Fray Antonio Agapida. By Washington Irving. Author's Revised Edition. [12mo.—pp. 548.] New York: G. P. Putnam. Rochester—D. M. Dewey.

The Ways of the Hour. A Tale. By J. Fenimore Cooper. Illustrated with Drawings by F. O. C. Darley. [12mo.—pp. 512.] New York: W. A. Townsend & Co. Rochester—D. M. Dewey.

Precaution. A Novel. By J. Fenimore Cooper. With a Discourse on the Life, Genius and Writings of the Author, by William Cullen Bryant. Illustrated with Drawings by F. O. C. Darley. [12mo.—pp. 484.] New York: W. A. Townsend & Co. Rochester—D. M. Dewey.

Life Among the Chinese. With Characteristic Sketches and Incidents of Missionary Operations and Prospects in China. By Rev. R. S. Maclay, M. A., thirteen years Missionary to China from the Methodist Episcopal Church. [pp. 400.] New York: Carlton & Porter. Rochester—E. Darrow & Bro.

The Travels of Ida Pfeiffer. Inclusive of a Visit to Madagascar. With an Autobiographical Memoir of the Author. Translated by H. W. Dulcken. [pp. 281.] New York: Harper & Bros. Rochester—Steele & Avery.

Seasons with the Sea Horses; or, Sporting Adventures in the Northern Seas. By Jas. Lamont, Esq., F. G. S. [8vo.—pp. 282.] New York: Harper & Bros. Rochester—Steele & Avery.

Life and Adventure in the South Pacific. By a Roving Printer. [pp. 361.] New York: Harper & Bros. Rochester—Steele & Avery.

The Sacred Star, or Union Collection of Church Music—consisting of Psalm Tunes, Anthems, Sentences and Chants, for the use of Choirs, Singing Schools, Conventions, Musical Associations, &c. Arranged and Composed by Leonard Marshall. Boston: Oliver Ditson & Co. Rochester—E. Darrow & Bro.

Rudiments of Public Speaking and Debate; or, Hints on the Application of Logic. By G. J. Holyoake, Author of "Mathematics no Mystery," "Logic of Facts," &c. With an Essay on Sacred Eloquence, by Henry Rogers. Revised by Rev. L. D. Barrows. [8vo.—pp. 230.] New York: Carlton & Porter. Rochester—Darrows.

The Elements of Logic. Adapted to the Capacity of Younger Students, and Designed for Academies and the Higher Classes of Common Schools. By Charles K. True, D. D. Third Edition, Revised. [pp. 170.] New York: Carlton & Porter. Rochester—Darrows.

Manual of Agriculture for the School, the Farm, and the Fireside. By George B. Emerson, Author of a "Report on the Trees and Shrubs of Massachusetts," and Charles L. Flint, Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture, Author of a Treatise on "Milch Cows and Dairy Farming," and "Grasses and Forage Plants," &c., &c. [8vo.—pp. 309.] Boston: Swan, Brewer & Tileston.

The Cloister and the Hearth; or, Maid, Wife and Widow. A Matter-of-Fact Romance. By Charles Reade, author of "Never too late to Mend," "Love Me Little, Love Me Long," etc., etc. [8vo.—pp. 256.] New York: Rudd & Carleton. Rochester—J. F. Hone.

The Silver Cord. A Novel. By Shirley Brooks. [8vo.—pp. 263.] New York: Harper & Brothers. Rochester—Steele & Avery.

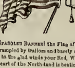
Streaks of Light; or, Fifty-two Facts from the Bible for the fifty-two Sundays of the Year. By the author of "More about Jesus," "Reading without Tears," "Peep of Day," &c. [pp. 344.] New York: Harper & Bros. Rochester—Steele & Avery.

Notice to Quit. By W. G. Wills, author of "Life's Foreshadowings." [No. 219 of Library of Select Novels; 8vo.—pp. 158.] New York: Harpers. Rochester—Steele & Avery.

The House on the Moor. By the author of "Margaret Maitland," "The Days of My Life," "The Laird of Norlaw," etc. [12mo.—pp. 405.] New York: Harper & Bros. Rochester—Steele & Avery.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.



"O, Star-Spangled Banner! the Flag of our pride!
Though trampled by traitors and basely defied,
Fling out to the glad winds your Red, White and Blue,
For the heart of the North-land is beating for you!
And her strong arm is nerving to strike with a will,
Till the foe and his boastings are humbled and still!
Here's welcome to wounding, and combat, and scars,
And the glory of death—for the Stripes and the Stars!"

ROCHESTER, N.Y., DECEMBER 14, 1861.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

In the midst of unprecedented political troubles, we have cause of great gratitude to God for unusual good health and most abundant harvests. You will not be surprised to learn that, in the peculiar exigencies of the times, our intercourse with foreign nations has been attended with profound solicitude, chiefly turning upon our own domestic affairs. A disloyal portion of the American people have, during the whole year, been engaged in an attempt to divide and destroy the Union. A nation which endures factious and domestic divisions is exposed to disrespect abroad, and one party or both is sure, sooner or later, to invoke foreign intervention. Nations, thus tempted to interfere, are not always able to resist the counsels of seeming expediency and ungenerous ambition, although measures adopted under such influences seldom fail to be unfortunate and injurious to those adopting them. The disloyal citizens of the United States, who have offered the ruin of our country in return for the aid and comfort which they have invoked abroad, have received less patronage and encouragement than they probably expected. If it were just to suppose, as the insurgents have seemed to assume, that foreign nations in this case, discarding all moral, social, and treaty obligations, would act solely and selfishly for the most speedy restoration of commerce, including, especially, the acquisition of cotton, those nations appear, as yet, not to have seen their way to their object more directly or clearly through the destruction than through the preservation of the Union.

If we could bear to believe that foreign nations are actuated by no higher principle than this, I am quite sure a second argument could be made to show them that they can reach their aim more readily and easily by aiding to crush this rebellion than by giving encouragement to it. The principal lever relied on by the insurgents for exciting foreign nations to hostility against us, as already intimated, is the embarrassment of commerce. Those nations, however, not improbably saw from the first that it was the Union which made as well our foreign as our domestic commerce. They can scarcely have failed to perceive that the effort for disunion produces the existing difficulty, and that one strong nation promises more durable peace, and a more extensive, valuable, and reliable commerce, than can the same nation broken into hostile fragments.

It is not my purpose to review our discussions with foreign States, because whatever might be their wishes or dispositions, the integrity of our country and the stability of our Government mainly depend not upon them, but on the loyalty, virtue, patriotism and intelligence of the American people. The correspondence itself, with the usual reservations, is herewith submitted. I venture to hope it will appear that we have practiced prudence and liberality towards foreign powers, averting causes of irritation, and with firmness maintaining our own rights and honor.

Since, however, it is apparent that here, as in every other State, foreign dangers necessarily attend domestic difficulties, I recommend that adequate and ample measures be adopted for maintaining the public defences on every side, while under this general recommendation provision for defending our coast line readily occurs to the mind. I also, in the same connection, ask the attention of Congress to our great lakes and rivers. It is believed that some fortifications and depots of arms and munitions, with harbor and navigation improvements at well selected points upon these, would be of great importance to the national defence and preservation. I ask attention to the views of the Secretary of War, expressed in his report upon the same general subjects.

I deem it of importance that the loyal regions of East Tennessee and Western North Carolina should be connected with Kentucky and other faithful parts of the Union by railroad. I therefore recommend, as a military measure, that Congress provide for the construction of such road as speedily as possible. Kentucky will, no doubt, co-operate, and through her Legislature make the most judicious selection of a line. The Northern terminus must connect with some existing railroad, and whether the route shall be from Lexington or Nicholasville to the Cumberland Gap, or from Lebanon to the Tennessee line in the direction of Knoxville, or on some still different line, can easily be determined. Kentucky and the General Government co-operating, the work can be completed in a very short time, and when done it will be not only of vast present usefulness but also a valuable permanent improvement, worth its cost in all the future.

Some treaties, designed chiefly for the interest of commerce, and having no grave political importance, have been negotiated, and will be submitted to the Senate for their consideration.

Although we have failed to induce some of the commercial powers to adopt a desirable amelioration of the rigor of maritime war, we have removed all the obstructions from the way of this humane reform, except such as are merely of temporary and accidental occurrence. I invite your attention to the correspondence between Her Britannic Majesty's Minister, accredited to this Government, and the Secretary of State, relative to the detention of the British ship Perthshire, in June last, by the United States steamer Massachusetts, for a supposed breach of the blockade. As this detention was occasioned by an obvious misapprehension of the facts, and as justice requires that we should commit no belligerent act not founded in strict right as sanctioned by public law, I recommend that an appropriation be made to satisfy the reasonable demand of the owners of the vessel for her detention.

I repeat the recommendation of my predecessor, in his annual message to Congress in December last, in regard to the disposition of the surplus which will probably remain after satisfying the claims of American citizens against China, pursuant to the awards of the Commissioners under the act of the 3d of March, 1859. If, however, it should not be deemed advisable to carry that recommendation into effect, I would suggest that authority be given for investing the principal over the proceeds of the surplus referred to in good securities, with a view to the satisfaction of such other just claims of our citizens against China as are not unlikely to arise hereafter in the course of our extensive trade with that Empire.

By the act of August 5, last Congress authorized the President to instruct the commanders of suitable vessels to defend themselves against and to capture pirates. This authority has been exercised in a single instance only. For the more effectual protection of our extensive and valuable commerce in the Eastern seas, especially, it seemed to me that it would also be advisable to authorize the commanders of sailing vessels to recapture any prizes which pirates may make of the United States vessels and their cargoes, and the Consular Courts established by law in Eastern countries to adjudicate the cases in the event that this should not be objected to by the local authorities.

If any good reason exists why we should persevere longer in withholding our recognition of the independence and sovereignty of Hayti and Liberia, I am unable to discern it. Unwilling, however, to inaugurate a novel policy in regard to them, without the approbation of Congress, I submit for your consideration, the expediency of an appropriation for maintaining a Chargé d' Affaires near each of those new States. It does not admit of doubt, that important commercial advantages might be secured by favorable treaties with them.

The operations of the Treasury during the period which has elapsed since your adjournment, have been conducted with signal success. The patriotism of the people has placed at the disposal of the Government the large means demanded by the public exigencies. Much of the national loan has been taken by citizens of the industrial classes, whose confidence in their country's faith, and zeal for their country's deliverance from its present peril, have induced them to contribute to the support of the Government the whole of their limited acquisition. This fact imposes peculiar obligations to economy in disbursement and energy in action.

The revenue, from all sources, including loans for the financial year ending on the 30th of June, 1861, was $86,835,900.27; and the expenditures for the same period, including payments on account of the public debt, were $84,578,034.47, leaving a balance in the Treasury on the 1st of July, of $2,257,065.80, for first quarter of the financial year ending on the 30th of September, 1861. The receipts from all sources, including the balance of July 1st, were $102,532,509 27; and the expenses $98,239,733.09, leaving a balance on the 1st of October, 1861, of $4,292,776.18. Estimates for the remaining three quarters of the year and the financial year of 1863, together with his views of the ways and means for meeting the demands contemplated by them, will be submitted to Congress by the Secretary of the Treasury. It is gratifying to know that the expenses made necessary by the rebellion are not beyond the resources of the loyal people, and to believe that the same patriotism which has thus far sustained the Government will continue to sustain it till peace and union shall again bless the land.

I respectfully refer to the report of the Secretary of War for information respecting the numerical strength of the army, and for recommendations having in view an increase of its efficiency and the well being of the various branches of the services entrusted to his care. It is gratifying to know that the patriotism of the people has proved equal to the occasion, and that the number of troops tendered greatly exceeds the force which Congress authorized me to call into the field.

I refer with pleasure to those portions of his report which make allusion to the creditable degree of discipline already attained by our troops, and to the excellent sanitary condition of the entire army. The recommendation of the Secretary for an organization of the militia upon a uniform basis, is a subject of vital importance to the future safety of the country, and is commended to the serious attention of Congress. The large addition to the regular army, in connection with the defection that has so considerably diminished the number of its officers, gives peculiar importance to his recommendation for increasing the corps of Cadets to the greatest capacity of the Military Academy.

By mere omission, I presume, Congress has failed to provide chaplains for the hospitals occupied by the volunteers. This subject was brought to my notice, and I was induced to draw up the form of a letter, one copy of which, properly addressed, has been delivered to each of the persons, and at the dates respectively named and stated in a schedule, containing also the form of the letter, marked A, and herewith transmitted. These gentlemen, I understand, entered upon the duties designated at the times respectively stated in the schedule, and have labored faithfully therein ever since. I therefore recommend that they be compensated at the same rates as chaplains in the regular army. I further suggest that general provisions be made for chaplains to serve at hospitals as well as with regiments.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy presents in detail the operations of that branch of the service, the activity and energy which characterize its administration, and the results of measures to increase its efficiency and power. Such have been the additions by construction and purchase, that it may almost be said a navy has been created and brought into service since our difficulties commenced. Besides blockading our extensive coast, squadrons larger than ever before assembled under our flag have been put afloat, and performed deeds which have increased our naval renown.

I would invite special attention to the recommendation of the Secretary for a more perfect organization of the Navy, by introducing additional grades in the service. The present organization is defective and unsatisfactory, and the suggestions submitted by the department will, it is believed, if adopted, obviate the difficulties alluded to, promote harmony, and increase the efficiency of the navy.

There are three vacancies on the bench of the Supreme Court—two by the decease of Justices Daniel and McLean, and one by the resignation of Justice Campbell. I have so far forborne making nominations to fill the vacancies for reasons which I will now state. Two of the outgoing Judges resided within the States now overrun by the revolt, so that if successors were appointed in the same localities, they could not now serve on their circuits; and many of the most competent men there probably would not take the personal hazard of accepting to serve even here upon the Supreme Bench. I have been unwilling to throw all the appointments northward, thus disabling myself from doing justice to the South on the return of peace, although I may remark that the transfer to the North of one which has heretofore been in the South, would not, with reference to territory and population, be unjust.

During the long and brilliant judicial career of Judge McLean, his circuit grew into an empire altogether too large for any one Judge to give the courts therein more than a nominal attendance—rising in population from 1,470,018 in 1830 to 6,151,405 in 1860; besides this, the country generally has outgrown our present judicial system. If uniformity was at all attempted, the system requires that all the States shall be accommodated with Circuit Courts, attended by Supreme Judges, while in fact Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Florida, Texas, California and Oregon have never had any such Courts. Nor can this well be remedied without a change of the system, because the adding of Judges to the Supreme Court enough for the accommodation of all parts of the country with Circuit Courts, would create a Court altogether too numerous for a judicial body of any sort, and the evil of it be one that will increase as new States came into the Union.

Circuit Courts are useful, or they are not useful. If useful, no State should be denied them; if not useful, no State should have them. Let them be provided for all, or abolished as to all. Three modifications occur to me, either of which, I think, would be an improvement on our present system. Let the Supreme Court be of convenient number, in every event. Then let the whole country be divided into circuits of convenient size, the Supreme Judges to serve in a number of them corresponding to them in their own number, and independent Judges to be provided for the rest; or, secondly, let the Supreme Judges be relieved from circuit duties, and Circuit Judges provided for all the circuits; or, thirdly, dispense with Circuit Courts altogether, leaving the judicial functions wholly to the District Courts and an independent Supreme Court.

I respectfully recommend to the consideration of Congress the present condition of the statute laws, with the hope that Congress will be able to find an easy remedy for the many inconveniences and evils which constantly embarrass those engaged in the practical administration of them. Since the organization of the Government, Congress has enacted some 5,000 acts and joint resolutions, which fill more than 6,000 closely printed pages, and are scattered through many volumes. Many of these acts have been drawn in haste, and without sufficient caution, so that their provisions are often obscure in themselves or in conflict with each other, or at least so doubtful as to render it very difficult for even the best informed persons to ascertain precisely what the statute law is. It seems to me very important that the statute laws should be made as plain and intelligible as possible, and be reduced to as small a compass as may consist with the fullness and precision of the will of the Legislature and the perspicuity of its language. These well done would, I think, greatly facilitate the labors of those whose duty it is to assist in the administration of the laws, and would be a lasting benefit to the people, by placing before them, in a more accessible and intelligible form, the laws which so deeply concern their interests and their duties. I am informed by some, whose opinions I respect, that all the acts of Congress now in force and of a permanent and general nature, might be revised and re-written so as to be embraced in one volume, or at least two volumes, of ordinary and convenient size, and I respectfully recommend Congress to consider the subject, and, if my suggestion be approved, to devise such plan as to their wisdom may seem most proper for the attainment of the end proposed.

One of the unavoidable consequences of the present insurrection, is the entire suppression, in many places, of all ordinary means of administering civil justice by the officers, and in the forms of existing law. This is the case in whole or in part in all the insurgent States, and as our armies advance upon and take possession of parts of those States, the practical evil becomes more apparent. There are no courts nor officers to whom the citizens of other States may apply for the enforcement of their lawful claims against citizens of the insurgent States, and there is a vast amount of debt constituting such claims. Some have estimated it as high as $200,000,000, due in large part from insurgents, in open rebellion, to loyal citizens, who are even now making great sacrifices in the discharge of their patriotic duty to support the Government. Under these circumstances, I have been urgently solicited to establish, by military power, courts to administer summary justice in such cases. I have thus far declined to do it, not because I had any doubt that the end proposed, the collection of the debts, was just and right in itself, but because I have been unwilling to go beyond the pressure of necessity in the unusual exercise of power. But the powers of Congress, I suppose, are equal to the anomalous occasion, and therefore I refer the matter to Congress, with the hope that a plan may be devised for the administration of justice in all parts of the insurgent States and Territories as may be under control of this Government, whether by a voluntary return to allegiance and order, or by the power of arms. This, however, is not to be a permanent institution, but a temporary substitute, and to cease as soon as the ordinary courts can be re-established in peace.

It is important that some more convenient means should be provided, if possible, for the adjustment of claims against the Government, especially in view of their increased number by reason of the war. It is as much the duty of Government to render prompt justice against itself in favor of citizens, as it is to administer the same between private individuals. The investigation and adjudication of claims in their nature belong to the judicial department. Besides, it is apparent that the attention of Congress will be more than usually engaged, for some time to come, with great national questions. It was intended by the organization of the Court of Claims mainly to remove this branch of business from the halls of Congress. But while the Court has proved to be an effective and valuable means of investigation, it in a great degree fails to effect the object of its creation for want of power to make its judgments final. Fully aware of the delicacy, not to say the danger of the subject, I commend to your careful consideration whether this power of making judgments final may not properly be given to the Court, reserving the right of appeal on questions of law to the Supreme Court, with such other provisions as experience may have shown to be necessary.

I ask attention to the report of the Postmaster General, the following being a summary statement of the condition of the department:

The revenue from all sources during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1861, including the annual permanent appropriation of $700,000, for the transportation of free mail matter, was $9,049,296.40, being about two per cent. less than the revenue for 1860. The expenditures were $13,606,759.11, showing a decrease of more than 8 per cent. as compared with those of the previous year, and leaving an excess of expenditures over the revenue for the last fiscal year of over $557,402.71. The gross revenue for the year ending June 30th, 1863, is estimated at an increase of four per cent. on that of 1861, making $8,683,000, to which should be added the earnings of the Department in carrying free matter, viz., $700,000, making $9,383,000. The total expenditures for 1863 are estimated at $12,528,000, leaving an estimated deficiency of $3,145,000 to be supplied from the Treasury in addition to the permanent appropriation.

The present insurrection shows, I think, that the extension of this district across the Potomac river at the time of establishing the Capital here, was eminently wise; and consequently that the relinquishment of that portion of it which lies within the State of Virginia, was unwise and dangerous. I submit for your consideration the expediency of regaining that part of the District and the restoration of the original boundaries thereof, through negotiations with the State of Virginia.

The Report of the Secretary of the Interior, with the accompanying documents, exhibit the condition of the several branches of the public business pertaining to that Department. The depressing influences of the insurrection have been especially felt in the operations of the Patent and General Land Office. The cash receipts of sales of public lands, during the past year, have exceeded the expenses of our land system only about $200,000. The sales have been entirely suspended in the Southern States, while the interruptions to the business of the country and the diversion of large numbers of men from labor to military service have obstructed settlements in the new States and Territories of the North-West. The receipts of the Patent Office have declined in nine months about $100,000, rendering a large reduction of the force employed necessary to make it self-sustaining. The demands upon the Pension Office will be largely increased by the insurrection. Numerous applications for pensions based upon the casualties of the existing war have already been made. There is reason to believe that many who are now upon the pension roll and in the receipt of the bounty of the Government, are in the ranks of the insurgent army or giving them aid and comfort. The Secretary of the Interior has directed a suspension of the payment of the pensions of such persons, upon proof of their disloyalty. I recommend that Congress authorize that officer to cause the names of such persons to be stricken from the Pension Roll.

The relations of the Government with the Indian tribes have been greatly disturbed by the rebellion—especially in the Northern Superintendency and in that of New Mexico. The Indian country south of Kansas is in possession of the Insurgents from Texas and Arkansas. The agents of the United States appointed since the 4th of March for this superintendency have been unable to reach their posts, while most of those who were in office before that time have espoused the insurrectionary cause, and assume to exercise the powers of agents by virtue of commissions from the insurgents. It has been stated in the public press that a portion of those Indians have been organized as a military force and are attached to the army of the insurgents, although the Government has no official information upon the subject. Letters have been written to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs by several prominent chiefs, giving assurance of their loyalty to the United States, and expressing a wish for the presence of Federal troops to protect them. It is believed that upon the repossession of the country by the Federal forces, the Indians will readily cease all hostile demonstrations, and resume their former relations to the Government.

Agriculture, confessedly the largest interest of the nation, has not a department or a bureau, but a clerkship only assigned to it in the Government. While it is fortunate that this great interest is so independent in its nature as not to have demanded and extorted more from the Government, I respectfully ask Congress to consider whether something more can not be given voluntarily with general advantage. Annual reports, exhibiting the condition of our agriculture, commerce and manufactures, would present a fund of information of great practical value to the country. While I make no suggestion as to details, I venture the opinion that an Agricultural and Statistical Bureau might profitably be organized.

The execution of the laws for the suppression of the African Slave trade has been confided to the Department of the Interior. It is a subject of congratulation that the efforts which have been made for the suppression of this inhuman traffic have been attended with unusual success. Five vessels fitting out for the Slave trade have been seized and condemned. Two masters engaged in the trade, and one person engaged in equipping a vessel as a slaver, have been convicted and subjected to the penalty of fine and imprisonment; and one captain, taken with a cargo of Africans on board his vessel, has been convicted of the highest grade of offence under our laws, the punishment of which is death.

The Territories of Colorado, Dacotah and Nevada, created by the last Congress, have been organized and civil administration has been inaugurated therein, under auspices especially gratifying, when it is considered that the leaven of treason was found existing in some of these new countries when the Federal officers arrived. The abundant natural resources of these territories, with the security and protection afforded by organized government, will doubtless invite to them a large immigration when peace shall restore the business of the country to its accustomed channels. I submit the resolutions of the Legislature of Colorado which evinced the patriotic spirit of the people of the territory. So far the authority of the United States has been upheld in all the Territories, as it is hoped it will be in the future. I commend their interests and defence to the enlightened and generous care of Congress.

I recommend to the favorable consideration of Congress the interests of the District of Columbia. The insurrection has been the cause of much suffering and sacrifice to the inhabitants, and as they have no representative in Congress, that body should not overlook their just claims upon the Government.

At your late session a joint resolution was adopted authorizing the President to take measures for facilitating a proper representation of the industrial interests of the United States at the Exhibition of the Industry of all Nations to be holden at London in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two. I regret to have been unable to give personal attention to this matter—a subject at once so interesting in itself, and so extensively and intricately connected with the material prosperity of the world. Through the Secretaries of State and of the Interior a plan or system has been devised and partly matured, which will be laid before you.

Under and by virtue of the act of Congress, entitled "An Act to Confiscate Property used for Insurrectionary Purposes," approved Aug. 6, 1861, the legal claim of certain persons to the labor and service of certain other persons have become forfeited, and numbers of the latter thus liberated are already dependent upon the United States, and must be provided for in some way. Besides this, it is not impossible that some of the States will pass similar enactments for their own benefit respectively, and by the operation of which persons of the same class will be thrown upon them for disposal. In such case, I recommend that Congress provide for accepting such persons from such States according to some mode of valuation, in lieu pro tanto of direct taxes, or upon some other plan to be agreed on with such States respectively; that such persons, on acceptance by the General Government, be at once deemed free,—that in any event steps be taken for colonizing both classes, or the one first mentioned if the other shall not be brought into existence, at some place or places in a climate congenial to them. It might be well to consider whether the free colored people already in the United States could not, so far as individuals may desire, be included in such colonization.

To carry out the plan of colonization may involve the acquiring of territory, and also the appropriation of money beyond that to be expended in the territorial acquisition. Having practiced the acquisition of territory for nearly sixty years, the question of constitutional power to do so is no longer an open one with us. The power was at first questioned by Mr. Jefferson, who, however, in the purchase of Louisiana, yielded his scruples on the plea of great expediency.

If it be said that the only legitimate objects of acquiring territory is to furnish homes for white men, this measure affects that object; for the emigration of colored men leaves additional room for white men remaining or coming here. Mr. Jefferson, however, placed the importance of procuring Louisiana more on political and commercial grounds, than on providing room for population. On this whole proposition, including the appropriation of money, with the acquisition of territory, does not the expediency amount to absolute necessity, that without which the Government cannot be perpetual?

If the war continue, in considering the policy to be adopted for suppressing the insurrection, I have been anxious and careful that the inevitable conflict for this purpose shall not degenerate into a violent and remorseless revolutionary struggle. I have, therefore, in every case, thought it proper to keep the integrity of the Union prominent as the primary object of the contest on our part, leaving questions which are not of vital military importance to the more deliberate action of the legislature.

In the exercise of my best discretion, I have adhered to the blockade of the ports held by the insurgents, instead of putting in force, by proclamation, the law of Congress, enacted at the late session, for closing these ports. Also, obeying the dictates of prudence, as well as the obligations of law, instead of transcending them, I have adhered to the act of Congress, to confiscate property used for insurrectionary purposes. If a new law upon the same subject shall be proposed, its propriety will be duly considered. The Union must be preserved, and hence all defensible means must be employed. We should not be in haste to determine what radical and extreme measures, which may reach the loyal as well as the disloyal, are indispensable.

The Inaugural Address at the beginning of the Administration, and the Message to Congress at the late Special Session, were both mainly devoted to the domestic controversy, out of which the insurrection and the consequent war have sprung. Nothing now occurs to add or subtract to or from the principles or general purposes stated and expressed in those documents.

The last ray of hope for preserving the Union peaceably, expired at the assault upon Fort Sumter, and a general review of what has occurred since may not be unprofitable. What was painfully uncertain then, is much better defined and more distinct now, and the progress of events is plainly in the right direction. The insurgents confidently claimed a strong support from north of Mason and Dixon's line, and the friends of the Union were not free from apprehensions on the point. This, however, was soon settled definitely, and on the right side. South of the line, noble little Delaware led off right from the first. Maryland was made to seem against the Union. Our soldiers were assaulted, bridges were burned, and railroads torn up within her limits, and we were many days at one time without the ability to bring a single regiment over her soil to the Capital. Now her bridges and railroads are repaired, and open to the Government. She already gives seven regiments to the cause of the Union and none to the enemy; and her people, at a regular election, have sustained the Union by a large majority, and a larger aggregate vote than they ever before gave to any candidate or any question. Kentucky, too, for some time in doubt, is now decidedly, and I think unchangeably, ranged on the side of the Union. Missouri is comparatively quiet, and I believe cannot again be overrun by the insurgents. These three States of Maryland, Kentucky, and Missouri, neither of which would promise a single soldier at first, have now an aggregate of not less than 40,000 in the field for the Union, while of their citizens, certainly not more than a third of that number among the insurgents, and they of doubtful whereabouts and existence, are in arms against it.

After a somewhat bloody struggle of months, winter closes on the Union people of Western Virginia, leaving them masters of their own country. An insurgent force of about 1,500 for months dominating the narrow peninsular region, constituting the counties of Accomac and Northampton, and known as the eastern shore of Virginia, together with some contiguous parts of Maryland, have laid down their arms, and the people have renewed their allegiance to, and accepted the protection of, the old flag. This leaves no armed insurrection north of the Potomac or east of the Chesapeake. Also, we have obtained a footing at each of the isolated points in the Southern coast of Hatteras, Port Royal, Tybee Island, near Savannah, and Ship Island, and we likewise have some general accounts of popular movements in behalf of the Union in North Carolina and Tennessee. These things demonstrate that the cause of the Union is advancing steadily southward.

Since your last adjournment, Lieut. General Scott has retired from the head of the army. During his long life, the nation has not been unmindful of his merits. Yet on calling to mind how faithfully, ably, and brilliantly he has served the country, from a time far back in our history, when few of the now living had been born, and thence forward continually, I cannot but think that we are still his debtor. I submit, therefore, for your consideration, what further mark of recognition is due to him and ourselves as a grateful people. With the retirement of Gen. Scott came the Executive duty of appointing in his stead a General-in-Chief of the army. It is a fortunate circumstance that neither in council nor country was there, so far as I know, any difference of opinion as to the proper person to be selected. The retiring Chief repeatedly expressed his judgment in favor of

Gen. McClellan for the position, and in this the nation seemed to give an unanimous concurrence.

The designation of Gen. McClellan, therefore, in a considerable degree, was the selection of the country as well as the Executive, and hence there is better reason to hope there will be given him the confidence and cordial support, thus by fair implication promised and without which he cannot with so full efficiency serve the country.

It has been said that one bad General is better than two good ones; and the saying is true, if taken to mean no more than that an army is better directed by a single mind, though inferior, than by two superior ones at variance and cross purposes; and the same is true in all joint operations wherein those engaged can have none but a common end in view, and can differ only as to the choice of means. In a storm at sea, no one on board can wish the ship to sink; and yet, not unfrequently, all go down together, because too many will direct, and no single mind can be allowed to control.

* * *

It continues to develop that the insurrection is largely, if not exclusively, a war upon the first principle of popular Government—the rights of the people. Conclusive evidence of this is found in the most grave and maturely-considered public documents, as well as in the general tone of the insurgents. In these documents we find the abridgment of the existing right of suffrage, and the denial to the people of all right to participate in the selection of public officers except the legislative body, advocated with labored arguments, to prove that large control of the Government in the people is the source of all political evil. Monarchy itself is sometimes hinted at as a possible refuge from the power of the people. For my present position, I could scarcely be justified, were I to omit raising a warning voice against this approach of returning despotism. It is not needed, nor fitting here, that a general argument should be made in favor of popular institutions; but there is one point with its connections, not so hackneyed as most others, with which I ask a brief attention. It is the effort to place capital on an equal footing with, if not above, labor, in the structure of Government. It is assumed that labor is available only in connection with capital, that nobody labors unless somebody else owning capital, somehow by the use of it, induces him to labor. This assumed, it is next considered whether it is best that capital shall hire laborers, and thus induce them to work by their consent, or buy them and drive them to it without their consent. Having proceeded so far, it is naturally concluded that all laborers are either hired laborers or what we call slaves, and further, it is assumed that whoever is once a hired laborer, is fixed in that condition for life.

Now, there is no such relation between capital and labor, as assumed, nor is there any such thing as a freeman being fixed for life in the condition of a hired laborer. Both of these assumptions are false, and all inferences from them are groundless. Labor is prior to and independent of capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor, and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital and deserves much the higher consideration. Capital has its rights, which are as worthy of protection as any other rights; nor is it denied that there is, and probably always will be, a relation between labor and capital producing mutual benefits. The error is in assuming that the whole labor of the community exists in that relation. A few men own capital, and that few avoid labor themselves, and with their capital hire or buy another few to labor for them.

A large majority belong to neither class, neither work for others nor have others work for them. In most of the Southern States, the majority of the whole people of all colors, are neither slaves nor masters, while in the North, a large majority are neither hirers nor hired. Men with their families,—wives, sons, and daughters,—work for themselves, on their farms, in their houses, and in their shops, taking the whole product to themselves, and asking no favor of capital on the one hand nor of hired laborers, or of slaves on the other.

It is not forgotten that a considerable number of persons mingle their own labor with capital, i. e., they labor with their own hands, and also buy or hire others to labor for them; but this is only a mixed and not a distinct class. No principle stated is disturbed by the existence of this mixed class.

Again, as has already been said, there is not of necessity any such thing as the free hired laborer being fixed for that condition for life. Many independent men, everywhere, in these States, a few years back in their lives, were hired laborers. One prudent, penniless beggar in the world, labors for wages awhile, saves a surplus with which to buy tools or land for himself, then labors on his own account another while, and at length hires a new beginner to help him. This is the just, and generous, and prosperous system, which opens the way to all, gives hope to all, and consequent energy and progress in the improvement of their condition to all. No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up or on from poverty, none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned. Let them beware of surrendering a political power, which they already possess, and which, if surrendered, will surely be used to close the door of advancement against such as they, and to fix new disabilities and burdens upon them till all of liberty shall be lost.

From the first taking of the National Census to the last are seventy years, and we find our population at the end of the period eight times as great as it was at the beginning. The increase of those other things which men deem desirable has been even greater. We thus have at one view what the popular principle, applied to Government through the machinery of the States and the Union, has produced, in a given time, and also what, if firmly maintained, it promises for the future. There are already among us those who, if the Union be preserved, will live to see it contain 250,000,000. The struggle of to-day is not altogether for to-day; it is for a vast future also. With a firm reliance on Providence, all the more firm and earnest for our present troubles, let us proceed in the great task which events have devolved upon us.

Abraham Lincoln.

Washington, December 3d, 1861.

THE WAR'S PROGRESS.

FACTS, SCENES, INCIDENTS, ETC.

Department of Missouri.

Gen. Halleck has issued lengthy General Orders in relation to the affairs of the Department, the principal points of which are as follows:

Lieut. Col. B. W. Farrar is appointed Provost Marshal of the Department.

Commanding officers of District posts and corps are directed to arrest and place in confinement all persons in arms against the United States or who give aid, assistance, or encouragement to the enemy. All property belonging to such persons which can be used by the army will be taken possession of for that purpose, and all other property will be examined by a board of officers and sold according to army regulations.

All persons found in disguise as pretended loyal citizens, or under other false pretenses, within our lines, giving information to, or communicating with, the enemy, will be arrested, tried, and shot as spies.

Persons not employed or enlisted in the service of the so called Confederate States, who commit hostility, will not be treated as prisoners of war, but punished as criminals, and be shot, or less severely punished, according to the rules of war.

In consequence of large numbers of Union families and non combatants having been plundered and driven from their homes in a desolate condition, and thousands of such persons are finding their way into this city, the Provost Marshals are directed to ascertain the condition of persons so driven from their homes, and under the military law of retaliation, quarter them in the homes, and feed and clothe them at the expense of avowed secessionists, who, although they do not themselves rob and plunder, give aid and encouragement, abet, and countenance the acts of their fellow rebels.

On the 4th inst. a party of exasperated citizens of all parties attacked a gang of returned rebels from Price's army, under Capts. Young and Wheatley, near Dunksburg, about 20 miles west of here, killing seven and wounding ten of them. Among the killed was Capt. Young. None of the citizens were killed or severely wounded. Three of the wounded rebels have since died.

Advices from the South to the 6th inst. say that McCulloch has gone into winter quarters on Pea Ridge, near Bentonville, Benton county, Arkansas, where he is putting up barracks for his troops. Nothing definite is known of Price's movements.

Gen. McBride was at Springfield with 2,000 men on Saturday last.

Refugees from the South-West have been assigned to Gen. Halleck's Sanitary Commission, in charge of the Government Hospital in St. Louis, where liberal contributions of money, clothing, and provisions are received. The Provost Marshal has taken steps to furnish suitable quarters among the rebels of the city for all those needing such accommodations, and about $5000 worth of clothing, blankets, &c., belonging to Camp Jackson prisoners, have been confiscated for their benefit. Some 900 refugees have already gone into Illinois, where they will endeavor to support their families until they can return to their homes. Large numbers continue to arrive, and the road between St. Louis and Rolla is thronged with them.

Dispatches to the 7th inst. state that Gen. Pope has been assigned to the command of all the Federal forces between the Missouri and Osage rivers. This force constitutes the largest part of the army which Gen. Fremont took to Springfield. Busy preparations are now being made for the establishment of winter quarters for the troops. General Price is still south of the Osage, and is losing more men by desertion and the expiration of time of service than he has gained by his proclamation. If he crosses the Osage, lively times may be expected.

Maj. Bowen, who left Rolla on the 30th ult., with 100 cavalry, from Gen. Wyman's brigade, in search of the notorious marauding rebel Freeman, was at Salem on the 3d inst. About 3 o'clock in the morning he was attacked at that place by the rebels under Cols. Freeman and Turner, and after a sharp fight, the enemy holding one part of the town and ours another, the rebels were driven from the place and completely routed, with the loss of some ten killed and thirty wounded, besides a great many prisoners. Among the latter was one Captain. Our loss will amount to fifteen killed and wounded. Major Bowen held the town.

Gen. Halleck has issued orders stating that the Mayor of the city will require of all municipal officers immediately to subscribe to the oath of allegiance prescribed by the State Convention in October last, and has directed the Provost-Marshal to arrest all State officers who have failed to subscribe to such oaths within the time fixed by the Convention, or attempted to exercise civil authority in violation of the ordinance.

Department of Ohio.

Recent arrivals from Kentucky bring most cheering intelligence of the condition and prospects there of the Union forces. It is stated positively that the rebel Buckner has a much smaller force than has been generally estimated. His army at Bowling Green is less than 20,000 strong, and arrangements are already perfected which will compel him to surrender immediately, or retreat rapidly into Tennessee.

The Commercial dispatch, Frankfort, says the conduct of the President in modifying Secretary Cameron's report, and the great confidence they have in General McClellan, Buel, and Halleck, is doing much to calm the fears of Union men.

Several men who fled from Letcher and Perry Counties were in Frankfort on the 6th inst., apparently for protection from Williams and his gang, who have invaded these counties, plundering the people, driving off their cattle and horses, and in some instances killing Union men. The report that Zollicoffer has crossed the Cumberland is discredited by some persons here. General Schoeff occupies a hill three-fourths of a mile this side of Somerset, with 5,000 men.

Southern papers say there is great excitement at Nashville in regard to drafting troops. Some 10,000 additional troops have arrived at Columbus, Ky., since the battle of Belmont. The rebel troops are rapidly concentrating there, and they declare that 75,000 men cannot take that position.

Specials in Memphis papers of the 2d give an account of a great battle at Morristown, East Tennessee, between the United States army under Parson Brownlow, and the rebels, which was fought December 1, in which the Federals were victorious. A rebel dispatch calls it the first Union victory of the war. Brownlow had three thousand men. The rebel force was not ascertained. The rout of the rebels was total.

General Tressevant has a long communication in the Appeal, showing the insufficiency of the rebel defences at and above Memphis. He says Columbus once lost, the Federals would have no trouble in marching directly to Memphis, and that Memphis is entirely defenceless and indefeasible. He calls upon every male citizen of the State to enrol, and threatens all who do not with death. The rebels are sending cotton to Northern Alabama for safety. Coffee is quoted at $1.00 per pound in Memphis, and none is to be had. Bacon, 60 cents. Other provisions in proportion.

Several letters from Somerset and Stanford, of the 6th, have just been received. They say that the Federal forces under General Schoeff have been compelled to retreat this side of Somerset, and that the rebels, 18,000 strong, have crossed Cumberland River, and are marching on Somerset. Men, women, and children are leaving Somerset in every possible conveyance, and marching into Stanford. The Stanford people think General Schoeff should be re-enforced, and the Democrat editorially thinks that General Schoeff's purpose in falling back on Somerset is to catch Zollicoffer in a trap.

Department of the East.

A most important order will soon be issued from headquarters, informing the Governors of the Free States that no more regiments, batteries, or independent companies, must be raised or received by them except upon the requisition of the War Department. The regiments, &c., now forming, will be completed, unless it shall be deemed more advantageous to the service to assign the men already raised to incomplete organizations actually in the field.

General Superintendents of the volunteer recruiting service will be appointed for all the States, and recruiting in each will be directed upon the system pursued in the regular army. The Superintendents will be officers of the regular army—retired officers if possible—or officers of artillery not serving in the field. Depots for the collection and instruction of the troops under command of the Superintendents, will be established at the following places, and such other as shall be considered advantageous in each of the States:—Minnesota, Fort Snelling; Iowa, Davenport; Wisconsin, Madison; Missouri, Jefferson, or Benton Barracks; Michigan, Detroit; Illinois, Springfield; Indiana, Indianapolis; Ohio, Columbus; Kentucky, Louisville; Pennsylvania, Harrisburg; New Jersey, Trenton; New York, probably Elmira and Albany; Vermont, Montpelier; New Hampshire, Concord; Maine, Augusta; Massachusetts, Cambridge; Rhode Island, Providence; Connecticut, New Haven; Delaware, Wilmington; Maryland, blank.

The enlistment papers of the volunteers will be the same as regulars for clothing, and will be issued to them at the State Depots.

Commanders of regiments in the field wanting troops, will make their requisitions directly on the Superintendent from their respective States.

No more cavalry will be accepted by the Government, and it is the purpose of the commanding General to muster out of the service all cavalry recruits in incomplete regiments, unless they will consent to come in as infantry. The number of the cavalry already amounts to between 60,000 and 70,000, much more than the Government can use.

Gen. Patterson has called for a Court of Inquiry into his conduct of the campaign of last spring and summer.

It is the intention of Gen. McClellan to consolidate the different companies of each regiment of the regular army. The exigencies of the service hitherto have made it necessary to scatter this force, so that there is hardly anywhere a whole regiment of the old army together. To effect this consolidation a number of companies of infantry are to be sent to Fort Pickens where the rest of their regiments are stationed, and other companies are to be brought from Fort Pickens here to fill up the regiments to which they belong. Thus in a little while each of these regiments will be together for the first time since the Mexican war, and in some instances for the first time since the regiments were organized.

A letter from Port Royal says the 79th N. Y. regiment made a reconnoissance toward Charleston, capturing three batteries and spiking the guns, and returned after having approached within twenty miles of Charleston. A large amount of cotton was found ready for shipment, but the rebels were destroying much of it. Nearly 1,000 contrabands are about the forts and others are coming in.

Another valuable prize arrived at the Brooklyn Navy Yard on the 7th, which was captured after a three hours' chase, on the 25th ult., by the steamer Penguin, while heading for Edisto Island near Charleston, S. C. She proved to be the schooner Albion, from Nassau, New Providence, laden with a cargo worth $100,000, consisting of salt, oil, tin, fruit, and also the suspicious articles of arms, ammunition, saddles and cavalry equipments, of considerable importance to the rebels just now. When brought to by the Penguin's guns she reported herself bound for New York from Nassau, with fruit and salt, but upon searching her the additional cargo of contraband of war was found on board. The officers turned out to be citizens of Savannah.

The steamers Boston and Cosmopolitan sailed recently from Hampton Roads, and took 3,000 men for Port Royal.

An officer of Gen. Burns' brigade, who left his camp on the 6th inst., reports that the enemy appear to be withdrawing their forces, especially those near Monocacy. The sound of the reveille is not now heard, and the pickets have diminished, and appear afraid to show themselves. It is thought the whole rebel force on the upper Potomac is preparing to retire.

General Wool held a counsel with his officers at Fortress Monroe, and they unanimously came to the conclusion that a demonstration ought to be made upon Richmond from that point. Gen. W. is therefore anxious that the government should give him the requisite number of men and means for that purpose. The subject is before the government.

The steamer S. R. Spaulding arrived at the Fortress on the 7th from Hatteras Inlet, and brings intelligence of a naval engagement between the U. S. gunboats Stars and Stripes, Underwriter, Putnam and Ceres, and two rebel gunboats. Between twenty and thirty shot and shell were fired on each side, without doing any damage. Several shots came close to the Spaulding from the rebel boats, to which Capt. Howe replied with his guns. By this steamer we also learn that on the 2d inst. a furious gale prevailed at the Inlet, but the fortifications remained uninjured by the tide, which was not as high as that of the previous month. The troops were all in good health.

Col. Leonard, of the Massachusetts 13th, arrived in Frederick, Md., on the 9th inst., from Williamsport, with important advices from the Upper Potomac. On Saturday afternoon a rebel force consisting of a battery of six pieces, 400 infantry and 200 cavalry, made their appearance at Dam No. 5, on the Virginia side, and commenced throwing shell and shot at the Dam and houses on the Maryland shore, burning barns and all the houses within range, continuing their fire until dusk. The only Unionists there were a company of the Massachusetts 13th, and an unarmed Illinois regiment. As the Massachusetts company was armed with smooth bores, their fire was not effective at that distance. Early on Sunday morning they resumed their fire, and emboldened by the slight resistance on Saturday, came down to the very brink of the river. During the night Col. Leonard dispatched a canal boat from Williamsport, and another company of his regiment, armed with Enfield rifles, as skirmishers along the Maryland shore.

On the renewal of the attack, the riflemen opened fire from their concealments, and in a short time the rebel artillery were compelled to abandon the battery in hot haste, the infantry and cavalry leaving the ground at the same time. The loss of the rebels is believed to be about 15 or 20 killed, and others wounded. For want of sufficient infantry force and a battery to protect our movements, Colonel Leonard was compelled to let the rebel guns remain in position, and after nightfall the rebels came and took them off. The rebel battery consisted of three Parrot 10-pounders, one 12-pounder, carrying Sawyer shells, and two smooth bore 6-pounders.

This forenoon the rebels were in considerable force, and kept up a scattering fire with rifles upon our men whenever visible. One Union soldier was severely wounded.

Affairs in Washington.

The Indian Bureau has received information that Gen. Hunter, by its direction, was holding a council at Leavenworth, with representatives from Southern tribes, including those from the Creeks, Cherokees and Choctaws, in relation to the disturbances caused by the present rebellion. The instructions sent thither by the committee of Indian affairs, contemplates their return to their own people, with strong assurances of the friendship of the United States Government.

The general disposition exhibited among Congressmen is to pass a law making more certain and stringent the forfeiture of rebel property, while that of Unionists will be more surely protected; in other words, making a wider discrimination between the two classes. It is not at all probable that anything will be done to militate against the heretofore declared object of vigorously prosecuting the war.

It is understood by financial people that the forthcoming report of the Secretary of the Treasury will present the banking systems, and the Government policy in respect to them, in a light that will fasten the attention of the country upon it. The claim of the Government to supply the circulating medium of all kinds will be presented impressively, on the ground of both principle and expediency, and on constitutional rights and financial necessity.

An army order just issued by the Secretary of War directs that all officers and enlisted men of the volunteer service, now prisoners in the hands of the enemy, or reported as missing in action, or who may hereafter be taken prisoners, or reported missing in action, be transferred to the skeleton regiments, to be formed by the Governors of the respective States, and to consist entirely of such missing officers and men. The vacancies thus occasioned in the regiment will be filled by the Governors of the several States to which the regiment belongs.

General Robert Wilson, President of the Missouri State Convention, arrived in Washington on the 0th inst. He says the Federal troops still occupy Sedalia, Rolla and Tipton. So far from Gen. McCulloch surrounding Gen. Sigel, at Sedalia, the latter would be rejoiced to get within reach of him. Gen. S. is now in command in place of Gen. Sherman, whose disorders have removed him, perhaps permanently, from his command. Gen. Wilson says the loyal citizens of Missouri have perfect confidence in Gen. Halleck.

The following important order, directed to the Commander-in-Chief, has been sent forth by the Secretary of State:

To Major-General George B. McClellan.—General: I am directed by the President to call your attention to the following subject:

Persons claimed to be held to service or labor under the laws of the State of Virginia, and actually employed in hostile service against the Government of the United States, frequently escape from the lines of the enemy's forces, and are received within the lines of the army of the Potomac. This Department understands that such persons coming into the city of Washington, are afterwards liable to be arrested by the City Police, upon the presumption arising from color, that they are fugitives from service or labor. By the 4th section of the act of Congress, approved August 6th, 1861, entitled "An act to confiscate property used for insurrectionary purposes," such hostile employment is made a full and sufficient answer to any claim to service or labor. Persons thus employed and escaping, are received into military protection of the United States, and their arrest as fugitives from labor or service should be immediately followed by the arrest of parties making the seizure.

Copies of this command will be sent to the Mayor of the city of Washington, and to the Marshal of the District of Columbia, that any collision between the military and civil authorities may be avoided.

I am, General, your very obedient servant,

Wm. H. Seward.

The Secretary of the Treasury has just issued the following general regulations in relation to securing and disposing of property found or brought within territory now or which may be hereafter occupied by the U. S. Army in disloyal States:

Treasury Department,
November 30, 1861.

In order to give security and proper disposition of the productions of soil and other property found within the limits of States or parts of States declared to be in insurrection against the United States, and now occupied or to be occupied by troops under authority of the Union, the following regulations are established:

There shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury, with the approbation of the President, agents to reside at such ports or places as are, or may be occupied by forces of the United States, whose duties it shall be to secure and prepare for the market, cotton and such other productions as may be found or brought within the lines of the army, or under the control of the United States authorities. To enable such agents to fulfill the duties devolved upon them, the military and naval authorities, under proper instructions, will render such military protection and aid as may be required to carry out the intentions of this Department. Persons held to service for life, under State laws, and who may be found within such limits, may be employed by the agents, who will prepare lists embracing the names, sex, and condition of such persons, and, as near as may be, their respective ages, together with the name of any person claiming their services, which list shall be in triplicate—one for the military command, one for the files of the agent, and one to be immediately forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury. Any person so listed will be organized for systematized labor, in securing and preparing for market, cotton, rice, and other productions found in the territory brought under Federal control.

Pay rolls will be prepared, and a strict account of the labor daily performed by each person entered thereon, for which proper compensation shall be allowed and paid to laborers. The amount of each compensation will be fixed in proportion to the service rendered by the agents and approved by the military commandant, and by the Secretary of the Treasury.

An inventory of all horses, mules, and other stock, vehicles of transportation, and other property, will be carefully made, and a copy transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury, signed by each agent.

A record of all products taken possession of will be made, and those of each plantation kept distinct. When prepared for shipment, the packages from the several plantations will be plainly marked, and the number, so as to be easily distinguished. An account of all provisions, of whatsoever character, found on such plantations, will be taken, and such provisions will be used so far as may be necessary for the sustenance of laborers thereon.

Any deficiencies of subsistence will be supplied by the U. S. Commissary, upon the requisition of the agent, to whom they will be charged, and for which he will account. Cotton and other articles, when prepared, shall be shipped to New York. All shipments shall be consigned to agents at New York, unless otherwise specially directed by the Secretary of the Treasury, and a carefully detailed account will be given by the agents of all supplies furnished by the Government, and all expenditures made. Each agent will transmit a weekly report of his proceedings to the Secretary of the Treasury, and render his accounts in duplicates monthly for settlement.

All requisitions, bills of lading and invoices will be countersigned by the military commandant, or such officer as he may designate for the purpose. Each agent will so transact his business and keep his accounts that as little injury as possible may accrue to private citizens who may maintain, or within a reasonable time resume the character of loyal citizens to the United States.

The President avows his purpose to adhere to a cautious and prudent policy in relation to foreign affairs. There need be no apprehension of any occurrence of hostilities between the United States and Great Britain; for unless the British government could seek a pretext for war, there is no ground for creating serious difficulties.

The Government feels no anxiety on this subject, believing that a temperate policy will allay excited feelings, and tend to cement the friendly relations which have hitherto existed between the two countries.

Secretary Welles has addressed the following complimentary letter to Captain Wilkes:

Navy Department, November 30, 1861.

Captain Charles Wilkes, Commanding United States Steamship San Jacinto, Boston:—I congratulate you on your safe arrival, and especially do I congratulate you on the great public service you have rendered in the capture of the Rebel emissaries. Messrs. Mason and Slidell have been conspicuous in the conspiracy to dissolve the Union, and it is well known that when seized by you they were on a mission hostile to the Government and the country. Your conduct in seizing these public enemies was marked by intelligence, ability, decision and firmness, and has the emphatic approval of this Department. It is not necessary that I should, in this communication, which is intended to be one of congratulation to yourself, officers and crew, express an opinion on the course pursued in omitting to capture the vessel which had these public enemies on board, further than to say that the forbearance exercised in this instance must not be permitted to constitute a precedent hereafter for infractions of neutral obligations.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

Gideon Welles.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

Senate.—On motion of Mr. Clark, it was resolved that the Marshal of the District of Columbia be directed to report immediately to the Senate the names of all persons now confined in jail in the city of Washington, with the causes of their commitment, names of magistrates by whom committed, length of their imprisonment, and names of the persons who made the first arrest.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, it was resolved that the laws now in force within the District of Columbia, relating to the arrest of fugitives from service or labor, together with all other laws concerning persons of color, within the District of Columbia, be referred to the committee on the District of Columbia, and that committee be from then instructed to consider the expediency of abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia, with compensation to the loyal holders of slaves.

Mr. Chandler introduced a resolution to expel Mr. Breckinridge.

Mr. Powell took ground against it, as Mr. Breckinridge had already resigned, he could not be expelled.

Mr. Trumbull insisted that he should be expelled, and offered a substitute for Mr. Chandler's resolution, as follows:

Whereas, John C. Breckinridge, a member of this body, has joined the enemies of his country, and is now in arms against the government he has sworn to support, therefore

Resolved, That the traitor Breckinridge be expelled.

Mr. Chandler accepted the substitute, and the resolution as thus amended was unanimously adopted. Yeas 36; nays 0.

The standing committees are the same as last session, with the exception of the following changes:

On Foreign Relations—Mr. Harris in place of Mr. Breckinridge.

On Military Affairs—Mr. Nesmith in place of Mr. Baker.

On Public Lands—Mr. Carlisle in place of Mr. Bingham.

On Indian Affairs—Mr. Clark in place of Mr. Foot.

On Pensions—Mr. Willey in place of Mr. Bingham.

On Territories—Messrs. Pomeroy and Carlisle in place of Baker and Breckinridge.

The committee on enrolled bills will consist of Messrs. Browning, Willey and Saulsbury.

On motion of Mr. Chandler, (Rep., Mich.,) the resolutions inquiring into the cause of the disaster at Bull Run and Ball's Bluff, were taken up.

Question was on substitute offered by Mr. Grimes, that the Committee investigate the causes of all disasters that have happened to Union forces.

Mr. Grimes proposed to amend the substitute so as to appoint a joint committee of three of the Senate and four of the House, to inquire into the conduct of the present war.

The resolution was agreed to—yeas 33, nays 3,—Carlisle, Latham and Rice.

Adjourned.

House.—Roscoe A. Conklin submitted the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be requested, if not incompatible with the public interest, to report to this House whether any, and if any, what measures have been taken to ascertain who is responsible for the disastrous movements of our troops at Ball's Bluff.

On motion of Mr. McPherson, it was resolved that the Secretary of War be requested to furnish to this House copies of all contracts made by the Quarter-Master's Department for feeding disabled horses during the winter; to state terms of those contracts, names of contractors, and the number of horses going out, and whether those contracts were made upon public notice.

Mr. Dunn (Rep., Ind.,) offered the following:

Whereas, Henry C. Burnett, member of this House from Kentucky, is in open rebellion against the United States, therefore,

Resolved, That said Henry C. Burnett be and he is hereby expelled from this House, and the Governor of Kentucky be notified of his expulsion.

Resolved, That the Sergeant-at-Arms be directed not to pay Burnett's salary which has accrued since the close of the Extra Session. Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Vallandigham, a resolution was adopted requesting the President to communicate to the House, if not incompatible with the public interests, copies of any communications addressed to the Executive by the Governments of England, Spain, and France in regard to the armed intervention proposed by them in the affairs of Mexico, and any other information he may have to communicate.

Mr. Hutchins introduced joint resolutions concerning our rebellion, the consideration whereof was postponed.

Also the following:

Whereas, It has been represented that there are confined in the Government Jail forty-five prisoners who are not charged with crime, but are represented as being slaves, the Committee for the District of Columbia be instructed to inquire into the truth of said report, and by what authority they were confined, who are the reputed owners, and what legislation, if any, is necessary to relieve them from imprisonment, and to prevent persons from being similarly imprisoned hereafter, and to report by bill or otherwise. Adopted.

Mr. Pendleton introduced a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to report what change, if any, is necessary in the mode of payment of soldiers who are held as prisoners of war.

Mr. Dunn offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to inquire into the practicability and expediency of procuring the rights and privileges of settlement and citizenship of any part of this continent or the adjacent islands south of the United States boundaries, for the habitation of persons of African descent, when they may choose to emigrate there from the United States for the formation of independent colonies, to be protected from foreign molestation. Adopted.

Mr. Richardson, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported the following, which was passed:

Whereas, The exchange of prisoners in the present rebellion has already been practiced indirectly, and as such exchange will not only increase enlistments and the vigor of our army, but subserve the highest interests of humanity, and as such an exchange does not involve recognition of the rebels as a government, therefore,

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives, that the President of the United States be requested to inaugurate systematic measures for the exchange of prisoners in the present rebellion.

On motion, it was resolved that the Committee on Foreign Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of furnishing relief to the starving population of Ireland, and to report by bill or otherwise.

To All Our Readers.

To the Agent-Friends and Subscribers of the Rural New-Yorker, we respectfully submit the annexed Programme of EXTRA PREMIUMS. All who approve the character and objects of the RURAL, and believe its circulation beneficial to community, can now *Do Good, Help Themselves, and Aid in Maintaining the Union*, by becoming RECRUITING OFFICERS for the RURAL BRIGADE, and securing a portion of the Popular Loan—Treasury Notes. The Premiums will be cheerfully and honorably paid, in accordance with our custom for the past twelve years. *Now is the Time to Secure the Prizes*, and those will do so who make *Early and Efficient Efforts* in behalf of the Favorite RURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER in America.

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D. D. T. MOORE, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

A Good Book Premium.—After examining the *Manual of Agriculture* (the new book advertised in the RURAL two weeks ago,) we concluded it to be the best work on the subject (especially for Boys and Young Men) which we could offer to those forming clubs, and have already purchased two hundred copies for distribution as premiums. We wish every Boy or Young Man who reads this paper could have, and would carefully peruse, the *Manual*; and to enable many to easily obtain it, we will send a copy, post-paid, to every person remitting $5 for a club of three subscribers, or $8 for a club of five. For $10 we will send six copies of the RURAL, with a free copy of the paper, and also the above work. "BOYS, DO YOU HEAR THAT?"

Begin Early.—Those who desire to form clubs for our next volume should *begin now*, before the field is occupied by canvassers for trashy papers of the Bunkum flag-staff and love-and-murder genus. ☞ If Agent-Friends will send names as early and fast as possible, it will enable us to get a large portion in type, and ready for mailing by machinery, previous to the commencement of the new volume.

☞ FILL THE PLACES OF AGENTS GONE TO THE WAR.—Quite a number of our Agents have gone to the War, mostly as Captains and Lieutenants in volunteer regiments. In cases where they have not appointed or requested persons to act in behalf of the RURAL during their absence, we trust some friend of the Paper will "assume the responsibility" of doing so, in order that there may be no vacancies. Friends, please fill the places of the absentees, and see that all have an opportunity to subscribe for our next volume. Many who now take the Paper, and others who like it, only need *asking*, and hence an Agent is wanted in every town. We hope many subscribers will kindly volunteer to act as Agents during the *Winter Campaign*—and the more the better. What say, Reader!

☞ THE DOCUMENTS FREE.—Specimen numbers of this volume will be sent free to all applicants. We shall take pleasure in also sending, free and post-paid, our large Show-Bill for 1861 (beautifully colored by hand,) Prospectus, &c., to any and all persons disposed to aid in extending the circulation of the RURAL NEW-YORKER. Reader, please send us the addresses of such of your friends, near or distant, as you think would be likely to subscribe or act as agents, and we will forward the documents accordingly.

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☞ WESTERN AND SOUTHERN MONEY.—In the present deranged state of the currency, we are unable to use Western and Southern money, as our bankers will not purchase it at any rate of discount. Agents and Subscribers who cannot obtain New York, New England, Pennsylvania, or Canada Money, will please send us *U. S. Postage Stamps*, as they are far preferable to any uncurrent bank bills.

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☞ ANY person so disposed can act as local agent for the RURAL NEW-YORKER, and those who volunteer in the good cause will receive gratuities, and their kindness be appreciated.

☞ OUR INDUCEMENTS for obtaining subscribers to the Thirteenth Volume of the RURAL, for 1862, are of the most Liberal and Substantial character. Premium Lists, Show-Bills, &c., sent free to all disposed to act as agents.

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER furnishes us our selections this week. It is one of the largest Agricultural papers, and, in its whole appearance, engravings, print and all, is a perfect gem. It is full of thought and information, and there is nothing in its contents to offend taste, purity or piety. It has a large circulation and we wish it were larger. It is published every Saturday in Rochester, N. Y., by D D T. Moore, who is more worthy of the D D's than many who have them.—*Congregational Herald.*

THE RURAL NEW-YORKER, published at Rochester, N Y, is free from politics, sectionalism, and sectarianism—a Family Paper of the first class. We feel safe in putting this into the hands of our children, and notice that it is the first sought for in the pile of exchanges. We don't get a cent for this notice—do it of our own free will and accord—trusting it may induce some to subscribe for it instead of the New York Ledger, and other trashy publications.—*Good Templar, St. Louis, Mo.*

RURAL NEW-YORKER.—There is something in old friendships and associations which hold us strongly to friends of "lang syne." Herein our love of the Rural. It has worked its way on and up, until it is one of the leading Agricultural journals of the country. The enterprise, ability and integrity of its management, accounts for its great success. With its immense circulation and independent outspoken thoughts, it is a terror to humbugs, and a favorite with the people.—*Wisconsin Chief.*

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Special Notices.

TO EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS.

Type for Sale.—The Type upon which the RURAL NEW-YORKER is now printed—consisting mainly of 800 lbs. of Scotch-face Minion, 200 lbs of Nonpareil, 250 lbs. of Agate, and various fonts of Head and Display Letter—will be sold at HALF-PRICE, deliverable on the 1st of January, 1862. As will be seen by the appearance of this paper the Type is in good order, makes a fair impression, and would be about as good as new for use on a hand press.

Stereotypes of Engravings.—We have also for sale, or can furnish to order, Stereotypes of most of the Engravings of late or formerly used in the RURAL. The assortment embraces some 2,000 Illustrations of various kinds—in Agriculture, Horticulture, Floriculture, Biography, Natural History, Scenery, Topography, &c., &c. We can promptly furnish any of the War Maps, Portraits of Generals, &c., recently (or hereafter to be) given in the RURAL, at War prices—from one-third to one-fifth the original cost. Apply to or address

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To Trial Subscribers—*The Reason.*—We have some complaints that trial subscribers (at offices where we have yearly subscribers) do not receive their papers in the regular package. The reason of this is that we do not mail trials by machine, but separately. We attempted to get them in type, but the task was so great, and the term of subscription so short, that we were constrained to desist. All trial friends who subscribe for our next volume, will have their names printed on the papers and receive them in the regular package.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office,
ROCHESTER, December 10, 1861.

BUSINESS is quite light, and the changes in rates are few. We quote such alterations as the markets disclose.

BARLEY has taken a wide range on account of the large quantities of inferior thrown out on sale.

PORK is drooping, $1,25 being the extreme figures to-day. Buyers are unwilling to pay more than $4,00 per 100 pounds.

SHEEP and LAMB SKINS have advanced materially, and such as are offered are readily taken at our quotations.

ROCHESTER WHOLESALE PRICES.

FLOUR AND GRAIN	
Flour, winter wheat	$5,25@6,50
Flour, spring do	5,00@5,25
Flour, buckwheat	2,00@2,00
Meal, Indian	1,00@1,00
Wheat, Genesee	1,10@1,25
Best white Canada	1,25@1,28
Corn, old	45@48c
Corn, new	45@45c
Rye, 60 lbs. ⅌ bush.	45@50c
Oats, by weight	30@31c
Barley	40@50c
Buckwheat	38@40c
Beans	1,25@1,50
MEATS	
Pork, Mess	$13,00@14,00
Pork, clear	15,00@16,00
Pork, cwt	4,00@4,25
Beef, cwt	4,00@5,00
Spring lambs, each	1,25@1,75
Mutton, carcass	3@4c
Hams, smoked	8@8½c
Shoulders	5@5c
Chickens	6@7c
Turkeys	8@9c
Geese	40@50c
Ducks ⅌ pair	38@44c
DAIRY, &c.	
Butter, roll	13@14c
Butter, firkin	12@13c
Cheese	6@7½c
Lard, tried	8@8c
Tallow, rough	5@5½c
Tallow, tried	7@7½c
Eggs, dozen	15@16c
Honey, box	10@11c
Candles, box	10@10½c
Candles, extra	12@12c
FRUIT AND ROOTS.	
Apples, bushel	38@63c
Apples, dried ⅌ lb.	5½@5½c
Peaches, do	15@16c
Cherries, do	14@16c
Plums, do.	12@14c
Potatoes	30@40c
HIDES AND SKINS.	
Slaughter	5@5½c
Calf	6@7c
Sheep Pelts	$1,25@1,75
Lamb Pelts	75c@$1,25
SEEDS.	
Clover, bushel	$4,00@4,50
Timothy	2,00@2,50
SUNDRIES.	
Wood, hard	$5,00@5,00
Wood, soft	3,00@3,00
Coal, Lehigh	7,00@7,00
Coal, Scranton	5,50@5,50
Coal, Pittston	5,50@5,50
Coal, Shamokin	5,50@5,50
Coal, Char	10@12½c
Salt, bbl	1,48@1,50
Hay, ton	7,00@11,00
Straw, ton	5,00@6,00
Wool, ⅌ lb	35@44c
Whitefish, half bbl	3,00@3,00
Codfish, quintal	4,00@4,50
Trout, half bbl	3,00@3,25

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, DEC. 7.—FLOUR—Market scarcely so firm, but without any decided change in prices, with only a moderate business doing for export and home consumption. Sales at $5,00@5,40 for rejected, $5,40@5,55 for superfine State, $5,65@5,70 for extra State, $5,40@5,50 for superfine Western, $5,60@5,90 for common to medium extra Western, $5,90@6,25 for shipping brands extra round hooped Ohio, and $6,05@6,75 for trade brands do, market closing steady. Some sales of very good extra State were made at $5,75. Canadian flour rules steady, with a moderate business doing. Sales at $5,45@5,50 for superfine, and $5,65@7,50 for common to choice extra. Rye flour quiet and steady, with sales at $3,50@4,40 for inferior to choice. Corn meal steady and without material change in prices. Sales at $3,00 for extra Western, $3,00 for Jersey, and $3,37½@3,50 for Brandywine.

GRAIN—Wheat market without any material change in prices, with a moderate business doing for export and home consumption. Shippers are disposed to wait for further accounts from Europe. Sales Chicago spring at $1,19@1,25, Northwestern club at $1,26@1,28, Milwaukee club at $1,27@1,29, amber Iowa at $1,30, red State at $1,33@1,35, amber Michigan at $1,37@1,39, very choice do at $1,40, Canada club at $1,29, winter red Western at $1,33@1,36, white Indiana at $1,49, white Canada at $1,40@1,45, white Michigan at $1,40@1,45, and red Long Island on private terms. Rye remains firm. Sales at 85@86c. Barley steady. Sales Canada East at 73c, State at 78c, and prime Canada East at 80c. Barley malt is nominal at 90c for prime. Peas quiet, with sales Canadian at 85c. Corn market may be quoted a shade firmer, with a moderate business doing for export and home consumption. Sales at 62@63½c for common mixed Western 64@65c for prime shipping do, 78c for white Western, and 65c for Jersey yellow. Oats heavy and declining. Sales at 44@44½c for Canada, and 44½@45c for Jersey, Western and State.

PROVISIONS—Pork firm and without change. Sales at $12,50@13,00 for mess, and $8,50@9,00 for prime. Beef unchanged. Sales at $4,00@4,50 for country prime, $5,00@5,50 for country mess, $11,00@12,00 for repacked mess, and $13,75@13,87 for extra mess. Prime mess beef firm and unchanged. Sales at $19,00@20,00. Beef hams steady. Sales at $16,00@18,25. Cut meats are quiet and dull. Sales at 3¾@4c for old shoulders and 5@5½c for new do, 4½@5c for old hams and 6½@7c for new do. Bacon continues firm and in limited demand. Sales small at 7¼c for short-ribbed middles, 7c for long ribbed do, 7c for long clear do, and 7½@8c for short clear do. Smoked meats dull and heavy. Sales a few hhds sides at 6@6½c. Lard in active demand and prices steady. Sales at 8½@9¼c for No. 1 to choice Western. Butter is firm, and selling at 11@16c for Ohio and 15@23c for State. Cheese continues steady at 6½@8½c for good to choice. Dressed hogs in good demand, with sales at 4½@5c.

ASHES are steady and in fair request at $5,56¼ for Pots and $5,50 for Pearls.

HOPS—The market is steady, the supply light; sales of 100 bales New at 14@22c for common to choice.

SEEDS—The demand for Clover Seed is moderate, and the market is easier, sales at 7¼@7½c. Timothy Seed is quiet at $1,75@2 ⅌ bushel.

BUFFALO, DEC. 7.—FLOUR—In moderate local and interior demand, and market unsteady. Sales to-day at $4,75@5,00 for extra Illinois and Wisconsin, $5,00@5,12½ for extra Ohio and Indiana, and $5,25@5,75 for range of double extras.

GRAIN—A fair inquiry for wheat prevails, but parties are apart, and we have no accurate means of ascertaining the true condition of the market. Sales to-day Milwaukee club on private terms and Chicago spring at 97c. Corn market quiet. Sales this morning of best at 40c. Oats dull, with small sales at 25c. Barley quiet, last sales at 45c. Rye nominal at 54c. Peas—last sales was Canadian at 50c. Beans quoted at 140c.

SEEDS—Market quiet and nominal at $1,75@1,90 for timothy.

PROVISIONS—Mess pork at $11 00, prime at $10 50, hams plain sugar cured, at 8@8½c; do. in sacks, at 8½@9c. Lard at 8c. Shoulders quiet at 4½c, country beef at $5,00, salted sides at 6c. Cheese, Hamburgh, at 6@7c.

DRESSED HOGS—Dull and unchanged.—*Courier.*

THE HOG MARKETS.

ST. LOUIS, DEC. 2.—The first lot of hogs bought for packing was sold at 3¼c net. Packers have done nothing of importance as yet. Sales of small lots of hogs to butchers at 3¼@3½c net.—*Democrat.*

CINCINNATI, DEC. 5.—The movements in hogs during the week have been for the most part lively, and prices have fluctuated but little. Heavy receipts on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday exercised a depressing influence, but no serious decline was established, and since that time, with more moderate supplies, the trade has had a hardening tendency, closing at $3,20@3,35 for lots averaging from 200 to 240 lbs.—*Gazette.*

INDIANAPOLIS, DEC. 4.—The business of the packing season is progressing rapidly. About 10,000 hogs have been killed up to this time. Prices are ranging from $2,75 to $3 net, according to quality.—*Journal.*

LOUISVILLE, DEC 6.—The receipts have been limited for the past four days, for butchers' use, and consequently the prices have advanced ¼c ⅌ 100 lbs. The packers have commenced slaughtering, and hogs are arriving freely. Prices range from $2,25 to $3 ⅌ 100 lbs. gross.—*Journal.*

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

ALBANY, DEC. 9.—BEEVES—The receipts are unusually light—about 700 less than last week, and the deficiency is even greater when weight is taken into consideration, owing to the comparatively large number of "hoppers" on sale. Nevertheless the trade is dull. The average quality of the cattle is quite low, owing to the number of two year olds in the yards, but this is somewhat to the advantage of holders of prime and extra steers, those grades commanding from ⅛c to ¼c ⅌ lb., live weight, higher than last week.

RECEIPTS—The following is our comparative statement of receipts at this market over the Central Railroad, estimating 16 to the car:

	This week.	Last week.	Cor week last year.
Cattle	2,106	2,384	1,939
Sheep	4,190	5,637	2,103
Hogs	750	1,621	372

PRICES—The market is only moderately active at the following quotations.

	This week	Last week.
Premium	0 @0 c	4¾@4¾c
Extra	4¼@4½c	4¼@4½c
First quality	3¾@4 c	3½@3¾c
Second quality	3¼@3½c	3 @3¼c
Third quality	2½@2¾c	2¼@2½c

SHEEP—The demand is fully up with the supply, if not somewhat in advance of it, notwithstanding the weather again changed and is unfavorable for slaughtering. Prices range from 3½c ⅌ lb. for ordinary to 4½c for strictly extra. This is an advance of 25@37 ⅌ 100 lbs. over our quotations of last week.

HOGS—The receipts at East Albany are even heavier than last week. During the past seven days the Central Railroad has brought down 340 car loads, or at least 30,000 head! Prices have advanced a fraction. The sales at East Albany yesterday were about 1700 head at 3¾@3⅞ ⅌ lb. for good to extra heavy corn fed. A few fancy lots are held at 4c. During the week about 10,000 changed hands at 3¼c for light to 3¾c for heavy. Dressed Hogs in light request at 4¼@4½c for light to heavy, 4⅝ for fancy, with a slight upward tendency.—*Atlas & Argus.*

NEW YORK, DEC 4.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows:

BEEF CATTLE.	
First quality ⅌ cwt	$8,00@8,50
Ordinary quality	7,00@8,00
Common quality	6,50@7,25
Inferior quality	6,00@6,50
COWS AND CALVES.	
First quality	$45,00@50,00
Ordinary quality	40,00@45,00
Common quality	30,00@35,00
Inferior quality	25,00@30,00
VEAL CALVES.	
First quality, ⅌ lb	5½@6 c
Ordinary quality	4½@5 c
Common quality	4½@4½c
Inferior quality	4 @4½c
SHEEP AND LAMBS.	
Prime quality, ⅌ head	$4,50@5,00
Ordinary quality	4,00@4,50
Common quality	3,00@4,00
Inferior quality	2,25@3,00
SWINE.	
First quality, ⅌ lb	3½@3¾c
Other qualities	3 @3½c

BRIGHTON, DEC 5.—At market 950 Beeves, 1100 Stores, 2300 Sheep and Lambs, and 600 Swine.

PRICES—Market Beef—Extra, $6,25, first quality, $6.00, second do, $5,25@0,00, third do, $4,50@4,75.

MILCH COWS—$45@46, common, $18@19.

WORKING OXEN—$85, $110@135.

VEAL CALVES—$3,00@4,50.

YEARLINGS—$8@11, two years old, $13@17, three years old, $16@19 each.

HIDES—6½@7c. Tallow, 6½@6¾c.

CALF SKINS—7@8c.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—$1,25@1,50, extra and selections, $2,00@$4 40.

PELTS—$1,00@1,50.

SWINE—Stores, wholesale, 4½@4¾c; retail, 4@5 c; fat hogs, undressed, 0c, still fed, 0c, corn fed, 0c.

CAMBRIDGE, DEC 4.—At market 955 Cattle, 100 Beeves, and 156 Stores, consisting of Working Oxen, Cows and Calves, Yearlings, two and three years old, not suitable for Beef.

PRICES—Market Beef—Extra, $6,10@6,25, first quality, $5,75@0.00, second do, $5,00, third do, $3,75@4,00.

WORKING OXEN—$85, $100@115.

COWS AND CALVES—$30, 36@40.

STORES—Yearlings, $8,00@11,00, Two years old, $12@15, Three years old, $17@19.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—2,650 at market. Prices in lots at $2,00@2,62 each; extra and selections $3,00@4,25.

Spring Lambs—None.

HIDES—6@6½ ⅌ lb. Tallow, 6½@6¾c.

PELTS—$1@$1,25. Calf Skins, 7@8c ⅌ lb.

VEAL CALVES—$0@0.

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, DEC. 5.—The supply of low and medium grades is inadequate to the wants of the trade, and these descriptions command extreme prices. Sales of 70,000 lbs. one-quarter, one-half, and three quarters full blood, at 47@52c. Choice Saxony Fleeces are quiet but firm at 50@52c, but most holders are indifferent sellers unless at higher rates. Pulled Wools are in light stock, and are firm at 44@48c for super and extra. California is scarce and wanted at 28@35c for medium grades. Foreign is also in light supply, and is firm at previous rates, sales of 100 bales unwashed Peruvian on private terms. We quote

American Saxony Fleece ⅌ lb	50@52
American full-blood Merino	48@50
American half and three-quarter blood Merino	47@52
Native and one-fourth Merino	47@52
Extra, Pulled	48@50
Superfine, Pulled	46@47
No 1, Pulled	40@44
Lamb's Pulled	00@00
California, fine, unwashed	30@35
California, common do.	15@25
Peruvian, washed	25@35
Valparaiso, unwashed	12@15
South American Merino, unwashed	00@00
Do do. Mestiza, do	00@00
Do do common, washed	14@17
Do do. Entre Rios, do	15@17
Do. do Entre Rios, unwashed	00@00
Do. do. Cordova, washed	25@35
Cape Good Hope, unwashed	00@00
East India, washed	12@20
African, washed	20@36
Do unwashed	10@20
Smyrna, do.	17@22
Do. washed	20@28
Mexican, unwashed	12@17
Texas	00@00

ALBANY, DEC 9.—The market continues firm for medium and common, and rather weak for fine. The stock of fleece here does not exceed 250,000 lbs. and pulled 80,000 lbs. The transactions are still kept private, although both buyers and sellers do not quote any change in prices. The sales during the week were confined to 4,000 lbs. No. 1 pulled and 1,000 lbs. medium and common fleece.

BOSTON, DEC 5.—The wool market continues the same as previously noticed. The low and medium grades are in demand, and sell readily at some 2@3c ⅌ lb. higher than the fine grades. The sales of the week have been 300,000 lbs., at prices ranging from 46@55c for fleece and pulled. The demand for foreign is steady, the sales comprising 600@700 bales including Mediterranean, South American, Cape and East India, at full prices.

Saxony Fleece	46@48
Full blood Merino	46@48
Three-fourth do	50@53
Half do	50@53
Common	50@52
Western mixed	35@45
Pulled Extra	50@55
Do Superfine	50@53
Pulled No 1	45@46
Do. No. 2	00@00
Texas	15@40
Smyrna, washed	25@38
Do. unwashed	16@25
Buenos Ayres	15@40
Crimea	12@25
Canada	44@50

Married.

IN Cohocton, N. Y., on Thursday evening Nov. 14, 1861, by Rev Mr HUNTER, Mr C M CREGO and Miss JENNIE CONNOR.

Advertisements.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 52½ cents per line of space. SPECIAL NOTICES, (following reading matter, leaded,) Sixty Cents a Line.

☞ Its immense circulation among the Producers and Dealers of the Free States, renders the RURAL NEW-YORKER by far the Best and Cheapest Advertising Medium of its class. This FACT should be borne in mind by all Wholesale Dealers, Manufacturers, &c., who must necessarily depend upon the People of the North for patronage.

HOLIDAYS.—50 XXX Written Cards sent for $1.
C A WALWORTH, Box 213, Philadelphia.

1000 PACKAGES of Rare Flower Seeds to be given away ☞ Send for a Circular. F. DUTTON, Ransom, Pa.

$80 PER MONTH!—AGENTS Wanted in every Town. It is something new and of real value. For particulars address, with stamp,
J. S PARDEE, Binghamton, N. Y.

ENGRAVING!—J. MILLER, No 00 Arcade, Rochester, N. Y., General Engraver. Wedding, Visiting, and Business Cards, Seals, Plate Printing, Wood Cuts, &c., &c. N. B.—All orders promptly executed at reasonable rates.

A LARGE SEVEN-OCTAVE ROSEWOOD BOARDMAN, GRAY & CO., PIANO FORTE, which cost $350 a year ago, has been but little used, and is in perfect order and as good as now, in every respect, will be sold for $250 including box for shipping. Apply to HENRY BELDEN, at N. Y. C. R. R. Co.'s Office, Brown St., Rochester, N. Y.

CHINA HALL, ROCHESTER.

ANDREW J. BRACKETT, Importer, Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Earthen, China, Parian and Glass Ware, No. 35 State street, Rochester, N. Y.

☞ All goods repacked at New York prices, thereby saving to purchasers Freight and Breakage.

In addition to his usual large stocks of STAPLE and FANCY GOODS, he would call attention to a large and well selected assortment suitable for the

HOLIDAYS,

consisting in part of the following:

FRENCH BRONZE CLOCKS, STATUETTES, BUSTS, &c., very fine goods.

PARIAN FIGURES, VASES, BASKETS, BOXES, &c., a large variety.

PLATED GOODS—a complete stock, at much reduced prices.

IVORY HANDLED CUTLERY—a large variety, of various qualities.

LAVA WARE VASES, TEA and SMOKING SETS, &c., &c.

RICH CHINA GOODS in great variety, some very choice, together with a great variety of Fancy and Useful Articles suitable for Christmas, New Year's, or Bridal Presents.

For all articles in Staple or Fancy Goods, China Hall is the place to purchase. An examination of his stock will convince any one of this.
622-4t

GILMAN'S SHOE STORE,
No. 8 STATE STREET,
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

THE CRANBERRY AND ITS CULTURE.—The Subscribers have issued a Circular from the press treating on the Cranberry and its Culture. Said Circular will give persons the proper information as to the commencement of their Culture. They will take pleasure in forwarding them to all parts of the United States, to those sending post stamp to pay postage. Persons wishing plants may receive them in small or large quantities by Express, for wet or dry soil. Address SULLIVAN BATES & CO., Bellingham, Norfolk Co., Mass.

FRUIT GROWERS' SOCIETY of WESTERN NEW YORK.—The Annual Meeting of the Fruit Growers' Society of Western New York will be held at the Court House, Rochester, N. Y., at 11 o'clock, A. M. on Wednesday, the 8th day of January, 1862. A fine show of Fruit may be expected.
By order of the Council.
621-4t C P DISSELL, Secretary, Rochester, N Y.

GILMAN'S SHOE STORE,
No. 8 STATE STREET,
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

HUBBARD & NORTHROP,
Are now offering, at their
POPULAR SALES ROOM,
Nos. 69 & 71 Main St., Marble Buildings,
ROCHESTER, N. Y.,
A CHOICE AND COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF
European and American Dress Goods,
Black and Fancy Dress Silks,
Broche and Woolen Long Shawls,
Broche and Woolen Square Shawls,
Bombazines, Alpacas and Paramettas,
French Merinos (Best Assortment in Rochester,)
French and American Prints and Ginghams,
House Furnishing Goods, Woolen Blankets,
Lace and Muslin Drapery, (Yard or Set,)
Wrappers and Drawers, Ladies' and Gentlemen's,
White Goods, Embroideries, Hosiery, &c.
—*ALSO*—
Bleached and Brown Sheetings and Shirtings,
Tickings, Denims and Towelings,
At LESS than the present New York prices.

Notwithstanding the general stagnation in almost every department of business during the last few months, it is with much satisfaction that we are able to record the fact that our efforts to maintain our former amount of business have been entirely successful, and in some departments the sales have increased over those of any previous year.

EVERY DEPARTMENT CONTAINS BARGAINS!

Which we should be happy to exhibit, confidently believing that they would be appreciated by the most economical purchaser. We are also extensive manufacturers of

LADIES' CLOTH GARMENTS.

Every desirable grade of Cloth and Beaver CLOAKS, of the most approved and Fashionable Styles, are now offered by us in great variety. We are also prepared to

MANUFACTURE GARMENTS TO ORDER,
AT A FEW HOURS' NOTICE,

For those who prefer selecting their own Cloths.

We have taken great pains to perfect arrangements appertaining to this popular branch of our business, and we are every month acquiring more and more popularity in the Manufacturing Department.

☞ OUR PRICES, ALWAYS SATISFACTORY.
HUBBARD & NORTHROP,
612 69 & 71 Main Street, Rochester, N. Y.

GILMAN'S SHOE STORE,
No. 8 STATE STREET,
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

BRONZE TURKEYS.—A few pairs of Bronze Turkeys bred from the largest stock ever imported, for sale by WM. ELDREDGE,
620-3t North White Creek, Wash. Co., N. Y.

FOWLER'S PATENT STEAM PLOWING MACHINERY—Patent Rights for States and Counties, and Machines are now for sale. Descriptive Pamphlets sent post free. Apply to R. W. EDDISON, 608 South Delaware Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. 619-tot

BOOKS FOR RURALISTS.

THE following works on Agriculture, Horticulture, &c., may be obtained at the Office of the RURAL NEW-YORKER. We can also furnish other books on Rural Affairs, issued by American publishers, at the usual retail prices,—and shall add new works as published. ☞ RURAL Agents entitled to premiums, and who are offered a choice of books, can select from this list.

American Farmer's Encyclopedia	$4 00
Allen's Am. Farm Book	1 00
Allen's Diseases of Domestic Animals	75
Allen's Rural Architecture	1 25
Allen on the Grape	1 00
Am. Architect, or Plans for Country Dwellings	6 00
American Florist's Guide	75
Barry's Fruit Garden	1 25
Blake's Farmer at Home	1 25
Boussingault's Rural Economy	1 25
Bright on Grape Culture, 2d edition	50
Browne's Bird Fancier	50
Browne's Poultry Yard	1 00
Do. Field Book of Manures	1 25
Bridgeman's Gard. Ass't	1 50
Do. Florist's Guide	60
Do Kitchen Gardener's Instructor	60
Do Fruit Cult. Manual	60
Breck's Book of Flowers	1 00
Buist's Flower Garden	1 25
Do. Family Kitchen Gard.	75
Chemical Field Lectures	1 00
Chinese Sugar Cane and Sugar Making	25
Chorlton's Grape Grower's Guide	60
Cobbett's Am. Gardener	60
Cottage and Farm Bee-keeper	50
Cole's Am. Fruit Book	50
Do Am. Veterinarian	50
Dadd's Modern Horse Doc.	1 00
Do. Am Cattle Doctor	1 00
Do Anatomy and Physiology of the Horse	2 00
Do colored plates	4 00
Dana's Muck Manual	1 00
Do Prize Essay on Manures	25
Darlington's Weeds and Useful Plants	1 50
Davy's Devon Herd Book	1 00
Domestic and Ornamental Poultry	1 00
Do colored plates	2 00
Downing's Fruits and Fruit Trees	1 75
Downing's Landscape Gardening	3 50
Do. Rural Essays	3 00
Eastwood's Cranberry Culture	50
Elliott's West. Fruit Book	1 25
Every Lady her own Flower Gardener	50
Family Doctor by Prof. H. S. Taylor	1 25
Farm Drainage, (H. F French)	1 00
Fessenden's Farmer and Gardener	1 25
Do. Am Kitchen Garden	50
Field's Pear Culture	1 00
Fish Culture	1 00
Flint on Grasses	1 25
Guenon on Milch Cows	60
Herbert to Horse-keepers	1 25
Hooper's Dog & Gun, paper,	25
Do do. cloth	50
Hough's Farm Record	3 00
Kidder's Guide to Apiarian Science	50
Hyde's Chinese Sugar Cane	25
Johnston's Agricultural Chemistry	1 25
Do Elements of Ag. Chemistry and Geology	1 00
Do. Catechism of Chemistry for Schools	25
Langstroth on the Hive and Honey Bee	1 25
Leuchar's Hot Houses	1 25
Liebig's Familiar Letters to Farmers	50
Linsley's Morgan Horses	1 00
Miner's Bee-keeper's Manual	1 00
Miles on the Horse's Foot	50
Milburn on Cow	25
Modern Cookery by Miss Acton and Mrs. S. J. Hale	1 25
Mrs. Abel's Skillful Housewife and Ladies' Guide	50
Saxton's Rural Hand Books, bound in 4 Series	each 1 25
Mann's Land Drainer	60
Nash's Progressive Farmer	60
Neill's Gard. Companion	1 00
Norton's Elements of Agriculture	60
Olcott's Sorgho and Imphee	1 00
Pardee on the Strawberry	60
Pedder's Land Measurer	60
Persoz's New Culture of the Vine	25
Phelps' Bee-keeper's Chart	25
Quinby's Mysteries of Bee-keeping	1 00
Quincy on Soiling Cattle	50
Rabbit Fancier	50
Randall's Sheep Husbandry	1 25
Richardson on the Horse	25
Do. Pests of the Farm	25
Do. Domestic Fowls	25
Do on the Hog	25
Do. on the Honey Bee	25
Do. on the Dog	25
Reemelin's Vine-dresser's Manual	50
Shepherd's Own Book	2 00
Stray Leaves from the Book of Nature	1 00
Stephens' Book of the Farm 2 vols	4 00
Skillful Housewife	25
Skinner's Elements of Agriculture	25
Smith's Landscape Gardening	1 25
Thaer's Principles of Agriculture	3 00
Thomas' Farm Implements	1 00
Thompson's Food of Animals	75
The Rose Culturist	50
Topham's Chemistry Made Easy	25
Turner's Cotton Planter's Manual	1 00
Warder's Hedges and Evergreens	1 00
Waring's Elements of Agriculture	75
Weeks on Bees	25
Wilson on Flax	25
Youatt & Martin on Cattle	1 25
Youatt on the Horse	1 25
Do on Sheep	75
Do. on the Hog	75

☞ Any of the above named works will be forwarded by mail, post-paid, on receipt of the price specified.
Address D. D. T. MOORE, Rochester, N. Y.

PRATT'S
CHEAP BOOT AND SHOE STORE,
54 State St., Mansion House Block,
ROCHESTER, N. Y.
THE LARGEST, CHEAPEST AND BEST REGULATED
SHOE STORE
IN WESTERN NEW YORK.
A Full assortment of both
Eastern and Home-Made Work
CONSTANTLY ON HAND.
All kinds of Boots and Shoes
MADE TO ORDER,
And the work done promptly when promised.
NO MISREPRESENTATIONS ALLOWED FOR THE
SAKE OF SELLING.
Parties buying goods at this Store can IN ALL CASES have
THEIR MONEY REFUNDED
If they desire it, if the goods bought are not as represented or do not fit and are returned in good order.
PERSONS from the COUNTRY
Visiting the city and wishing to purchase Good Boots and Shoes, should be sure to find this Store.
PRATT,
54 State Street, Mansion House Block.
Third Door South of Market Street.

GILMAN'S SHOE STORE,
No. 8 STATE STREET,
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

CARPETINGS!
500 PIECES
New and Elegant Carpetings!

Comprising many new styles never before in this market.—OUR STOCK is complete in *every department*, from the ROYAL MEDALLIONS to the very *lowest priced Carpet* made.

Elegant Carpets,
FOR DRAWING ROOMS,
PARLORS, DINING ROOMS,
HALLS, LIBRARIES,
CHAMBERS, KITCHENS,
OFFICES, CHURCHES, SCHOOL HOUSES.

In fact, the best assortment of all kinds of CARPET ROOM GOODS to be found in any one house in this country.

We have purchased *much larger* than usual, in anticipation of the *rise of Carpetings*, in consequence of the *new Tariff*, and the great call for *low priced*

WOOLS FOR ARMY USES,

A fact that should be borne in mind by all persons about buying a new Carpet, as all goods purchased by us after this will cost from 10 to 20 cents per yard more than now.

OUR STOCK IS THE LARGEST IN VARIETY to be found in any *Retail House in this State*, and at *prices that cannot fail to suit the* CLOSEST BUYERS.
618-eotf HOWE & ROGERS,
Carpet Ware Rooms, 35 State St., Rochester, N. Y.

GILMAN'S SHOE STORE,
No. 8 STATE STREET,
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

METROPOLITAN GIFT BOOKSTORE,
NO. 26 BUFFALO ST., ROCHESTER, N. Y.,

The largest and most liberally conducted establishment of the kind in the United States. All Books sold at the Publisher's Prices, and a Gift given with each purchase, varying in value from 50 cents to $100. Descriptive Catalogues mailed free to any address upon application. Liberal inducements offered to Agents getting up clubs.
620-tf

WANTED.—A gentleman living within a few miles of Madison, the capital city of Wisconsin, in Dane County, wants a man and his wife to take the full charge of a Grain and Stock Farm, including a dairy of fifty to a hundred cows. The farm comprises 700 acres. A couple without, or with only a small family, is desired, and the man will have to carry on the farm, and the woman the dairy. None need apply unless thoroughly competent and having good references, and to such a couple liberal wages will be paid.

☞ A young man who is a competent gardener and capable of carrying on a nursery is also wanted.

Application must be made by letter or otherwise to the *Patriot* Office, Madison, Wisconsin. If by letter, address H. C.
Madison, Wis., Nov. 14, 1861. 619-4t

GILMAN'S SHOE STORE,
No. 8 STATE STREET,
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

NEW ENTERPRISES.—Any desired information about PRICES OF ADVERTISING, and of PRINTING, furnished GRATIS
GEO BOWERYEM, Commission Agent, New York.

APPLE STOCKS—1,000,000 one year, and 2,000,000 two year old Apple Stocks, at from $1 50 to $2.50 ⅌ 1,000. Our Stocks are unsurpassed, and we offer them for CASH at the above war prices. ENSIGN & FORD,
614-tf Ohio Nurseries, Toledo, Ohio.

AGENTS WANTED to SELL FRUIT TREES. We wish to employ a number of experienced and trustworthy men to sell trees, &c., from our Nurseries at liberal wages.

WHOLESALE DEALERS furnished with Nursery Stock of all descriptions at the *lowest wholesale rates*.
ROOKER, FARLEY & CO.,
604tf Rochester Wholesale Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y.

LIME.—Page's Perpetual Kiln, Patented July, 1857—Superior to any in use for Wood or Coal. 2¼ cords of wood, or 1¾ tons of coal to 100 bbls—coal not mixed with stone. Address [434-tf.] C. D. PAGE, Rochester, N. Y.

SPEAK BOLDLY!

Speak boldly, Freemen! while to-day
The strife is rising fierce and high,
Gird on the armor while ye may
In holy deeds to win or die;
The Age is Truth's wide battle-field,
The Day is struggling with the Night,
For Freedom hath again revealed
A Marathon of holy right.

Speak boldly, Hero! while the foe
Treads onward with his iron heel;
Strike steady with a giant blow,
And flash aloft the polished steel;
Be true, O Hero! to thy trust!
Man and thy God both look to thee!
Be true, or sink away to dust—
Be true, or hence to darkness flee.

Speak boldly, Prophet! Let the fire
Of Heaven come down on altars curst,
Where Baal priests and seers conspire
To pay their bloody homage first;
Be true, O Prophet! Let thy tongue
Speak fearless, for the words are thine—
Words that by morning stars were sung,
And angels hymned to strains divine.

Speak boldly, Poet! Let thy pen
Be nerved with fire that may not die;
Speak for the rights of bleeding men
Who look to Heaven with tearful eye.
Be true, O Poet! Let thy name
Be honored where the weak have trod,
And in the summit of thy fame,
Be true to Man! Be true to God!

Speak boldly, Brothers! Wake, and come!
The Anakim are pressing on!
In Freedom's strife be never dumb!
Gird flashing blades till all is won!
Be true, O Brothers! Truth is strong!
The foe shall sink beneath the sod—
While love and bliss shall thrill the song
That truth to Man is Truth to God.

The Story-Teller.

BACHELOR'S LOVE-MAKING.

You would have known it for a bachelor's den, the minute you put your head in the door! Blue, spicy wreaths of cigar smoke, circling up to the ceiling—newspapers under the table, Castile soap in a tiny bronze card-receiver, slippers on the mantle-piece, and confusion everywhere. And yet Mr. Thornebroke—poor, deluded mortal—solemnly believed that his room was in the most perfect order! For hadn't he poked his empty champagne bottles under the bed, and sent the wood-box to hear them company, and hung his morning gown over the damp towels, and dusted the ash-sprinkled hearth with his best silk handkerchief? *He'd* like to see a room in better trim than that—guess he would! And now he was mending himself up, preparatory to going calling on the very prettiest girl in New York. Not that he was particularly fond of the needle, but when a fellow's whole foot goes through a hole in the north-east toe of his stocking, and there isn't a button on his shirt, it's time to repair damages.

Now, as Mr. Thornebroke's whole stock of industrial implements consisted of a lump of wax, an enormous pair of scissors and one needle, the mending didn't progress rapidly. His way of managing the button question, too, necessarily involved some delay; he had to cut all these useful little appendages from another shirt, and sew them on, and next when the shirt was wanted, why, it was easy enough to make a transfer again! See what it is to be a bachelor genius! It never occurred to him to *buy* a few buttons extra!

"Buttons are not much trouble," said Mr. T. to himself, as he wiped the perspiration from his brow, "but when it comes to coat sleeves, what the deuce is a fellow to do? I haven't any black thread, either," and he looked dolorously at a small tear just in his elbow, where some vicious nail had caught in the broadcloth. "A black pin may do for to-night, and to-morrow I'll send it to the tailor. The fact is, I ought to be married; and so I would, if I only dared to ask Lillian. O, dear! I know she wouldn't have me; and yet I'm not certain, either—if I could only muster courage boldly to put the question! But just as sure as I approach the dangerous ground, my heart fails me! And then that puppy, Jones, with his curled moustache, and hair parted in the middle, always hanging round Lillian, and quoting poetry to her—if I could have the privilege of kicking him across the street, I'd die happy! He isn't bashful, not he! If somebody would invent some new way of popping the question—something that wasn't quite so embarrassing!"

Our hero gave his black, glossy curls an extra brush, surveyed himself critically in the glass, and then, with a deep sigh, set forth to call on the identical Lillian Raymond, resolving, as he had a thousand times before, that if—perhaps—may be—

O! the bashfulness of bachelors.

When Mr. Thornebroke arrived within the charmed precincts of Mr. Raymond's handsome parlors, velvet carpeted, chandeliered with gold and ormolu, crowded to the very doors with those charming knick-knacks that only a woman's taste provides, Miss Lily was "at home" in a bewildering pink merino dress, edged with white lace around the pearly shoulders, and a crimson moss twisted in among the rippling waves of her soft brown hair. She never looked half so pretty; and, thank Providence, Jones wasn't on hand, for once in his life. But, what was almost as bad, Lily's cousin was there—a tall, slender, black-eyed girl, with arch lips, and cheeks as red as a Spitzenberg apple. O, how Thornebroke wished that Miss Esther Allen was at the bottom of the Red Sea, or anywhere except in that particular parlor. And then her eyes were so sharp—he hadn't been doing the "agreeable" more than four minutes and a half, before she exclaimed:

"Dear me, Mr. Thornebroke—pray excuse me—but what on earth is the matter with your elbow?"

Mark turned scarlet—the traitorous black pin had deserted its post.

"Only a compound fracture of my coat, Miss Allen," said he, feeling as though his face might do the duty of Raymond's chandeliers both put together; "you know we bachelors are not exempt from such things."

"Hold your arm, sir, and I'll make it right in one moment," said Esther, instantly producing from some secret recess in the folds of her dress a thimble and a needle threaded with black silk, and setting expertly to work.

"There, now, consider yourself whole."

"How skillful you are," said Mark, admiringly, after he had thanked her most sincerely. "But then you have so many nice little concerns to work with. I have only a needle and some wax, besides my scissors!"

"You ought to have a housewife, Mr. Thornebroke," said Miss Lily, timidly lifting up her long lashes in his direction. Lily never could look at Thornebroke without a soft little rosy shadow on her cheek.

"A what?" demanded Mark, turning very red.

"A housewife."

"Yes," said Mark, after a moment's awkward hesitation, "my—my—my friends have told me so very often—and I really think so myself, you know. But what sort of a one would you recommend, Miss Raymond?"

"O, any pretty little concern. I'll send you one in the morning, if you'll accept of it," she added, with a rosy light upon her cheeks again.

"If—I'll—accept!" said Mark, feeling as if he were in an atmosphere of gold and pearl, with two wings sprouting out of his broadcloth, on either side. And just as he was opening his lips to assure Miss Lily that he was ready to take the precious gift in his arms then and there, without any unnecessary delay, the door opened, and in walked Jones.

Mark was not at all cannibalistic in his propensities, but just then he could have eaten Jones up with uncommon pleasure. And there the fellow sat, pulling his long moustache, and talking the most insipid twaddle—sat and sat until Mark rose in despair to go. Even then he had no opportunity to exchange a private word with Lily.

"You—you'll not forget—"

"O, I'll be sure to remember," said she, smilingly, and half-wondering at that unusual pressure he gave her hand. "Ladies often do provide their bachelor friends so!"

Mark went home the happiest individual that ever trod a New York pavement. Indeed, so great was his felicity that he indulged in various gymnastic capers indicative of bliss, and only paused in them at the gruff caution of a policeman, who probably had forgotten his own courting days—"Come, young man, what are you doing?"

"Was there ever a more delicate way of assuring me of her favorable consideration? Was there ever a more feminine admission of her sentiments? Of course, she will come herself, an angel, breathing airs from Paradise, and I shall tell her of my love. A housewife, O! the delicious words! Wonder in what neighborhood she would like me to engage a residence—how soon would it be best to name the day! O! if I should awake, and find it all a blissful dream!"

Early the next morning Mr. Thornebroke set briskly to work, "righting up things." How he swept and dusted and scoured; the room was aired, to get rid of the tobacco smoke, and sprinkled with cologne, and beautified generally, and at length, when the dust was all swept into one corner, and covered by a carelessly disposed newspaper, he found the window glass murky, and polished it with such a vengeance that his fist, handkerchief and all, went through, sorely damaging his hand, and necessitating the ungraceful accessory of an old hat to keep out the wintry blast for the time being. However, even this mishap did not long daunt his spirits, for was not Lily coming?

Long and wearily he waited, yet no tinkle at the bell gave warning of her approach. "It's all her sweet, feminine modesty," thought he, and was content.

At length there was an appeal below, and his heart jumped up into his mouth, beating like a reveille drum. He rushed to the door, but there was no one but a grinning little black boy, with a box.

"Miss Raymond's compliments, and here's de housewife, sir."

"The housewife, you little imp of Erebus!"

"Yes, sir, in de box, all right."

Mark slunk back into his room, and opened the box, half expecting to see a full dressed young lady issue from it, *a la* Arabian Nights; but no, it was only a little blue velvet book, and full of odd compartments in azure silk, containing tape, needles, scissors, silk, a thimble, and all the nice little work-table accessories.

"And she calls this a housewife!" groaned Mark, in the ineffable bitterness of spirit at the downfall of his bright visions. "But I won't be put off so."

Desperation gave him courage, and off he hied to the Raymond mansion, determined to settle the matter, even though there were forty Joneses and Esthers there.

But Lillian was alone, singing at her embroidery in the sunshiny window casement.

"Dear me, Mr. Thornebroke, is anything the matter?"

Perhaps it was the shadow from the splendid crimson cactus plumes in the window that gave her cheek such a delicate glow; perhaps—but we have no right to speculate.

"Yes." And Mark sat down by her side and took the trembling, fluttering hand. "You sent me a housewife this morning!"

"Wasn't it right?" faltered Lillian.

"It wasn't the kind I wanted at all!"

"Not the kind you wanted?"

"No; I prefer a living one, and I came to see if I could change it. I want one with brown hair and eyes—something, in short, Miss Lillian, just your pattern. Can't I have it?"

Lily turned white, then red, smiled, then burst into tears, and tried to draw away her hand, but Mark held it fast.

"No, no, dear Lily; first tell me I can have the treasure I ask for."

"Yes," she said, with the prettiest confusion in the world; and then, instead of releasing the captive hand, the unreasonable fellow took possession of the other, too. But as Lily did not object, we suppose it was all right.

And that was the odd path by which Mark Thornebroke diverged from the path of old bachelorhood, and stepped into the respectable ranks of matrimony.

DROPS OF WISDOM.

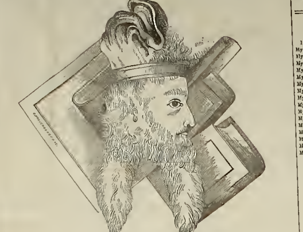
If you do good, forget it; if evil, remember and repent of it.

Vanity.—The vanity of human life is like a river, constantly passing away, and yet constantly coming on.—*Dean Swift.*

Learn in childhood, if you can, that happiness is not outside, but inside. A good heart and a clear conscience bring happiness, which no riches and no circumstances alone ever do.

Life and Death.—While we are reasoning concerning life, life is gone; and death, though perhaps they receive him differently, yet treats alike the fool and the philosopher.—*Hume.*

Suspicion is the palsy of the heart; fear is a chain of ice upon the tongue. Half words are worse than silence; and either is death to conversation. A man, to be genuine, to be himself, must believe and be believed; must trust and be trusted. The scowl of a doubt quenches the charm of conversation as quickly as the shadow of a hawk does the song of a bird.



SUPPOSED PORTRAIT OF A CELEBRATED "PROFESSOR."

As intimated some weeks ago, we give a portrait of the self-styled "Professor" of "Terra-Culture"—the man who don't admire certain "Learned Agricultural Editors," because their exposures have retarded his progress and *profits* in "disclosing the disclosures." The above is supposed to be a portrait of the possessor of the so-called *G-r-e-a-t S-e-c-r-e-t*, but by reversing the picture, (as the reader will now do,) he can be seen *as viewed by those who have heard him and tested his theory!*—[R. N. Y., April 9, 1859.

"TERRA-CULTURE" AND ITS "PROFESSOR."

[From the Rural New-Yorker, December 2, 1852.]

Terra-Culture and its "Discoverer" Libeled!—Reader, give us your sympathy! It is intimated that the pretended discoverer of Terra Culture—one "Prof." Comstock—proposes to prosecute the editor of this paper for an alleged libel in speaking disrespectfully and disparagingly of the said Professor and his theory. The leading count in the forthcoming indictment is, that we were the first editor who *dared* to speak out, and that many others have followed our example in exposing the humbug, to the great detriment of the *pocket* and reputation of its author! This is probably true, and we therefore, with due humility, acknowledge the compliment. We are not in the habit of waiting for others to express an opinion in matters of such importance to the agricultural community,—and the Professor *knows* that money cannot secure a favorable notice of his so-called "discovery" (nor the publication of a "puff" of himself, *by himself,*) in the Rural New-Yorker. And we more than suspect that, during his sojourn hereabouts, he discovered some other editors in Rochester and Western New York who were equally independent.

Without wishing to forestall public opinion, we respectfully submit two or three reasons why the learned Professor "hadn't oughter" prosecute in this case. In the first place, he could never recover the $100,000 damages to his pocket, character, and culture—the amount he expects (?) to obtain from Congress. On *this* point we are positive! Next, we aver that we have endeavored from the beginning to discover something in the man and his theory approximating to what he claimed—and if we could come to no other conclusion than that he was either an ass or a knave, and his "discovery" a superlative humbug, the fact must be attributed to our ignorance. Again, we claim that we were called upon to speak boldly and decidedly, in self defense, as well as for the common weal,—for the lecturer was ingeniously using our name at the head of a list of some fifty editors, to commend himself and his theory to the public; whereas we only gave our signature as one who would hear him lecture, and not to be used in the manner above indicated. If he is so hard hearted as to persist in prosecuting us, we shall offer this last as a full and sufficient offset—and indeed justly claim a balance of damages! Meantime, and perhaps after, the publication of the Rural will be continued.

[From the Rural New-Yorker, January 2, 1853.]

The Terra-Culturist "Still Lives!"—As to "disclosed" by this caustic squib from the *Ohio Cultivator*:—"Prof. Comstock, of Mabbettsville, New York, so he writes it, having waited twenty years for an ungrateful people to give him a hundred thousand dollars to disclose the mysteries of terra-culture, has finally gone where the devils did when they left the possessed among the tombs, viz., into the swine; and now he proposes to Disclose a Disclosure upon Hog Cholera. Twenty-five thousand dollars is about the figure he sets upon this mystery. Individual rights, $5 each. If the animals should behave on this occasion as they did in the first instance, and carry the Professor along with them, the world would be rid of a very great bo(a)re."

[From the Rural New-Yorker, June 30, 1855.]

Does the Bug "Still Live?"—In common with a great many well informed people, we had innocently supposed that "Terra-culture" was among the things that were—had "gone up" or evaporated. No such thing. Its learned "Professor" evidently possesses more lives than the most tenacious specimen of the feline species, for it appears from the following that he "still lives" and continues to "disclose the disclosures" to the poor and ignorant denizens of the dark and benighted corners of this mundane sphere:

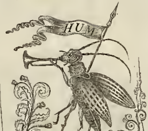
Mr. Moore.—There is a *Prof. Comstock* lecturing in this State on "Terra-culture" to the tune of $50 per lecture. You editors are supposed to know more than lecturers; is it "humbug" or is it not?—D. W. F., *Lenawee Co., Mich.*

Now, we should be very happy to oblige our esteemed friend, but really it does not become us to detract from the merits of the pretended "new principle in Vegetable Life," or to disturb the learned "Professor" in his laborious efforts to benefit "all the world and the rest of mankind," (himself in particular,) by imparting, *for a valuable consideration*, his wonderful and never-to-be-understood or appreciated *discovery*. It is true that "Terra-culture" has heretofore been pretty thoroughly examined, tested and exploded by both scientific and practical men in this State and elsewhere,—and moreover the "great secret" has been "disclosed" and *exposed* in the Rural and other agricultural journals. It is also on record that the theory was pronounced *no new discovery* by the N. Y. State Ag. Society, in 1851,—an able Committee (consisting of J. B. Nott, the late A. J. Downing, Judge Van Bergen, L. F. Allen and E. P. Prentice,) reporting that "after a conference with Mr. Comstock, the Committee came to the *unanimous opinion that* no new discovery had been made by Mr. Comstock, nor was his practice different from that of experienced nurserymen heretofore, and which may be found discussed in public works," &c. We could easily give an abundance of reliable testimony of similar purport. And yet, inasmuch as the "Professor" was "once on a time" so extremely *complimentary* as to place our name at the head of a list of some sixty editors, attached to a statement strongly recommending "Terra culture"—which statement was published and extensively circulated before we were aware of its existence, and of course without our knowledge or consent,—we do not think it proper to further expose what the "discoverer" so modestly, honorably and honestly caused us to endorse! True, we never, in fact, recommended either him or his theory,—still we dislike to call names, and would not be accessory to the "taking off" of one whose premature [illegible] might deprive the world of all valuable knowledge! Witness the following "beautiful extract" from a recommendation of "Terra-culture" that recently appeared in a Western paper,—and which was evidently written by the self-styled "Professor," who is celebrated for his cruelty to the English language:

"If the Discoverer die under existing circumstances we have not any reason to believe that the world will ever know what his discovered principle is, and his subsequent discoveries *are*!!"

Awful, isn't it? If his life were insured at his own estimate of its value,—the proceeds to be equally distributed,—it would be safe to announce the arrival, ere long, of a pretty large chunk of the "good time" which has been so long "coming!"

—But, seriously,—though we can hardly speak or write gravely relative to such an egregious "sell"—we do think this "Terra-culture" a little in advance of the China Tree-corn, Morus Multicaulis, Rohan Potato, or any similar contagious affliction of by gone years, and admirably adapted to the wants of those who require *bleeding* and *blistering* occasionally. In the opinion of the best farmers and horticulturists who have heard and experimented upon the "disclosures," and therefore know whereof they assert, it is, of all others which have prevailed on the edge or in the middle of this nineteenth century, the most unapproachable and unmitigated



[From the Rural New-Yorker, March 19, 1859.]

"Terra Cultura"—*Its "Professor" still Rampant!*—There's little use of killing some humbugs, for, after being effectually buried in one locality, they will "turn up" and flourish and fleece community a thousand miles distant. The Rural and other Ag. journals years ago exposed the fallacious theory of "*Prof.*" *Comstock*—the man who has been waiting so long for an ungrateful Republic to give him a million of dollars or less to disclose the mysteries of terra-culture—yet there are places in this "widely-extended country" where he "still lives," temporarily, and depletes the purses of the lovers of the marvelous. His "last appearance" was in the "Old Dominion," as we infer from a slip cut from a local paper and kindly sent us by a friend at Fairfax C. H., Va. In this slip the "Prof." is severe on the "learned Agricultural Editors of the North"—as indeed he well may be, for they have pretty effectually spiked his swindling swivel wherever their journals circulate. The Rural had the misfortune to open the warfare on terra-culture, and hence its irate "Professor" is particularly "down" on "Mr. Moore." He can't forget that the whole "secret" and wonderful "mystery" was first given to the Rural—nor that "Mr. Moore" fearlessly exposed his subsequent forgery and falsehoods. But if he lied then, he now proves himself the father of liars, for the statements made relative to us, in the slip aforesaid, are utterly false and ridiculous. For instance, in reply to the charge that he forged our signature and placed it at the head of a list of sixty editors endorsing his theory, he says that "Moore's agent signed Moore's name," etc. Now, this is sheer "gammon"—for neither Moore, nor any agent of his, *ever signed anything endorsing terra-culture.* And the assertion that Moore "offered him $50 to write an article on the practice of terra-culture for his paper" is equally false and absurd, for we never offered him a penny, or even suggested the thing. On the contrary, we *refused to publish* what he desired on the subject, *though he offered us the gold for such service!* Thus, instead of our offering *him*, the offer was *from him*—which, according to our notion, is a "white horse of another color." But we forgive the hallucinated "Professor," and not only that, we purpose to "return good for evil" by giving his portrait in the Rural in a week or two—a double view, as seen by himself and also by the public. As to his theory, that is proved to be an egregious "sell," yet we may perhaps, in connection with the portrait, again "disclose the disclosures" for the benefit of our Virginia and other distant readers.

[From the Rural New-Yorker, November 19, 1859.]

The "Professor" of Terra Culture.—We have lately received several letters from Western Pa., speaking in no very complimentary terms of the operations of this charlatan, and telling us how he "pitched into" the Rural New-Yorker and its Editor. We beg our friends to give themselves no uneasiness on our account. The "Professor," as we have proved, is the father of liars, and all we ask of him is that he will not speak well of us! As to publishing the articles against him and his theory, we consider it unnecessary after what we have given in this and former volumes. And, beside, we observe that the Pittsburg papers and their correspondents, (especially Geo. Neeley,) are after the "Professor" with a sharp stick—have indeed driven him from the State, for we learn that he has just appeared in Connecticut. We commend him to the kind and critical attention of our friends of *The Homestead.*

[From the Rural New-Yorker, November 26, 1859.]

The Tribune on Terra Culture.—A late number of the N. Y. *Tribune* contains a "first-rate notice" of terra-culture, for which Horace or Solon will probably be indicted for libel, ("the greater the truth the greater the libel,") or cruelty to animals. Here it is:—"A friendly puff of 'Professor Comstock,' and what he calls his system of terra-culture, appears in yesterday's *Courier and Enquirer*, with the information that the said 'Professor' is now in this city delivering lectures on his system. This moves us to say that in our humble judgment 'Professor' Comstock is a bore, and his system worthless. It was exposed several years ago by the late A. J. Downing. Terra-culture consists in putting the seed on the top of the ground, and covering it with straw. Whoever pays money for lessons in such a system is either a dupe or an ass—perhaps both."

Corner for the Young.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.

I am composed of 16 letters.
My 1, 8, 12, 3, 2, 9 is a river in Asia.
My 2, 14, 12, 8 is a volcano in Europe.
My 3, 5 was a king of Bashan.
My 4, 8, 11, 16 is familiar to all.
My 5, 6, 15, 4, 13, 11, 8 is a State in rebellion.
My 6, 4 was a grandson of Jacob.
My 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 16, 15, 14, 3, 12 is a city in the U. S.
My 8, 3, 4, 15, 12 was the man that made a god for Israel.
My 4, 14, 13, 7, 2 is the name of a notable woman.
My 10, 8, 4, 4, 11, 9, 16, 12 was a President of the U. S.
My 11, 12, 16 is a house where travelers stop.
My 12, 11, 8, 1, 8, 4, 8 is a wonder of the Western continent.
My 13, 4, 2, 6, 12, 2 is a county in New York.
My 14, 6, 12 is a number.
My 15, 4, 2, 13, 3, 12 is a State in the Union.
My 16, 3, 9, 10 is a county in North Carolina.
My whole is the name of a General of the Revolutionary War.

De Ruyter, Mad. Co., N. Y. B. H. Stillman.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

CHARADE.

My first has the signification of three,
My second, a word of command,
My third is an answer once given to me
When I asked Angeline for her hand,
My fourth is a person I'll always esteem,
My fifth is splendid advice,
My whole—of foolscap—causes many a ream
To oft be destroyed in a trice.

Crosscreek Village, Pa., 1861. John Morrow.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

AN ANAGRAM.

Ehrot tums eb ioesnhsa homereeow sinfdre
No'e ni eht kadrtse roah
Oudhle ew too tiwe ibwt itencape nhet
Eht spgulas fo elh wsbreo.

Eagle, Nov. 25th, 1861. P. A. W.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

For Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

A railway train in starting moves one foot in the first second, two in the second, three in the third, &c. A man stands on the track, behind the train, who can run 5½ rods in 7½ seconds. How far behind the train can he stand and be just able to overtake it, both starting at the same instant?

Schoolcraft, Mich., Nov. 18, 1861. E. Fish.

☞ Answer in two weeks.

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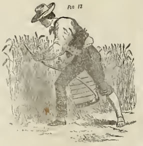

Fig 13

Dr. Bly—*Dear Sir:* The artificial leg you made for me serves me better than I ever supposed any artificial leg could.

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Most sincerely and thankfully yours,
H. J. DRAKE.

Chelsea, Michigan, August 15, 1861.

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Rochester, N. Y., Sept. 14, 1861. 610-13teo

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